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LD2208131988 [Editorial Report]

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iran has not fired "even a single bullet" at Iraqi positions since the cease-fire declaration, according to an Iranian official cited by IRNA. Iraq claimed a soldier was shot dead 20 August by an Iranian sniper who "infiltrated" an Iraqi defensive position in the Sayf Sa'd area, INA reported. Iraq "did not reply" to the violation, INA added. Iran claimed Iraqi troops fired 10 rounds of "small-caliber bullets" in the western front area "in the presence of" UN observers, according to IRNA. Both countries announced the 20 August cease-fire to be mediated by the United Nations, whose observers are stationed all along the 1200-km border, according to INA and IRNA.

An Iraqi naval commander denied Iranian claims that its Navy searched the Iraqi cargo ship "Khawlah" in the Persian Gulf, INA announced. Iranian helicopters hovered over the ship "in an open attempt to provoke" it, INA announced. However, the "Khawlah's" captain "did not respond" to the Iranian Navy's calls to board the ship and paid no attention to its "irresponsible behavior," the commander stated. He reaffirmed Iraq's rights to "free navigation in international waters." The Iranian naval commander said a "preliminary inspection" of the ship was carried out "in line with international rules" observed in the Persian Gulf "over the past few years," IRNA reported. Earlier, he announced that Iran "on the basis of international regulations" will continue to exercise its "right" to inspect ships "until complete peace is achieved," IRNA stated. Responding to the announcement, the Iraqi naval commander called it a "military action" that constitutes a "serious violation" of the cease-fire that Iraq will "resist strongly," INA noted. Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz sent a letter to the UN secretary general protesting the Iranian announcement and asking him to "drive home" to the Iranian authorities their "commitments" under the cease-fire, INA disclosed.

The first Iraqi-flagged oil tanker sailed through the Gulf "a few hours" after the cease-fire was implemented, Baghdad radio announced. Iranian naval ships "displayed their combat readiness" in the Arvand River in the presence of UN observers, IRNA disclosed.

The USSR Government issued a statement on the cease-fire, saying it "signifies a change" in the world political climate, according to PRAVDA. The cease-fire is a "cogent example" of the effectiveness of the United Nations and the "peacekeeping potential" of the Security Council, the statement stressed. The USSR is willing to show "maximum goodwill" to support the negotiations process and to seek a "reduction of the density of arms in the region," the statement noted, saying the cease-fire makes the "pretexts" justifying the presence of foreign navies in the Gulf "disappear completely" and the USSR is willing to withdraw its ships "without delay" if other "nonlittoral states" do so.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi accused "enemies" of using the country's reconstruction as a "pretext" to make it dependent, Tehran radio disclosed. He denied rumors that the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps would be disbanded, the radio added.

The Iranian petroleum minister detailed plans to rebuild the country's oil industry and announced the beginning of export operations at Ganaveh port, the radio said.

Iraq-PRC

Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister, received a visiting PRC official Qi Huaiyuan to discuss the "expansion and development" of bilateral relations, according to INA. The Chinese official reiterated the PRC's willingness to support the implementation of the cease-fire, XINHUA added.

Israel

The Fatah Movement-the Revolutionary Council led by Abu Nidal claimed responsibility for a 20 August bomb attack in Haifa in which 25 people were injured, AFP reported. According to Jerusalem radio, an IDF-issue hand grenade was thrown at a "large crowd" in the street. Three Palestinians from Janin and "another Arab" have been detained under suspicion and eight other Arabs are being held for questioning, the radio added. A Nablus youth injured 18 August by IDF gunfire died 2 days later, the radio disclosed. Another resident was killed, according to the radio, when "several knife wielding villagers" attacked a routine IDF patrol. Two more youths were killed 21 August in separate incidents in the Al-Burayj refugee camp and in Tubas, the radio reported. Three passengers were injured 21 August when a firebomb was thrown at a Jerusalem bus, the radio reported, and seven Arab "youngsters" were arrested for suspicion of throwing three firebombs and a smoke grenade into a yard in Or Yehuda. A 17-year-old Or Yehuda youth is under arrest for arson and "murder with nationalist motives" in connection with the death of three workers in a hut set alight at a construction site, MA'ARIV disclosed.

According to Qezi'ot detention camp inmates cited by THE JERUSALEM POST, one of the Palestinian prisoners killed during the 16 August riot was "deliberately shot at close range by a top officer of the facility." Major General Yitzhaq Mordekhay, commander of the Southern Command in an interview with Jerusalem television, termed the allegations "completely unfounded" and "fabrications." General Mordekhay said that based on the investigation so far he is satisfied that the reports are "not even remotely related to the facts." Knesset members 'Oded Zucker, Charlie Biton, and Tawfiq Tubi were among 100 protestors prevented by police and soldiers from demonstrating in front of the camp 20 August, Jerusalem radio disclosed. "Hundreds" of people in Umm al-Fahm demonstrated against the government's policy toward the West Bank and Gaza, the radio reported. The PLO flag was carried during the rally organized by the Hadash Communist Party as one of a "series" of planned "events." Three Wadi 'Ara Arabs received 14-month jail sentences for participating in the "Peace Day" demonstrations staged at the "end of last year," the radio revealed.

In a Cabinet session, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's security policy came under a "barrage of revilement again," Jerusalem radio stated. Ariel Sharon told the Cabinet that "a sense of lack of security prevails in Jewish settlements," while Chief of Staff Dan Shomron asserted that the IDF "will soon turn into a street gang" if it does not abide by the law.

Lebanon

Three Syrian soldiers were among 15 people injured when a car bomb rigged with hand grenades exploded 10 meters from a Syrian roadblock in West Beirut, Voice of Lebanon reported. The Islamic Resistance announced that "over 30 Zionists" were killed and "most of the convoy's vehicles" were destroyed in a suicide operation against an Israeli convoy near Marj 'Uyun, Beirut radio reported. However, according to Jerusalem radio, three IDF soldiers were "very slightly wounded" while the driver and a "local Lebanese resident" were killed in the "failed" attempt. According to "news agencies" cited by the radio, the car exploded "several meters from the convoy."

Jerusalem radio reports that three "terrorists" were killed in the security zone were confirmed by a PFLP communique cited by Radio Monte Carlo noting that members of a commando group were killed in an infiltration operation. According to Beirut radio, the IDF also "suffered grave losses in life and equipment" in the operation.

Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt accused Iraq of supplying arms to the Lebanese Forces, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported. Meanwhile, Junblatt and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri discussed the elections and agreed on a "number of firm steps" that might be implemented within "the next 48 hours," Voice of National Resistance radio revealed. Birri told Radio Monte Carlo that the presidential elections require reconciliation among the Lebanese and not a compromise President. "The National and Islamic Forces will soon embark on real moves to unify ranks and turn this slogan into reality," he asserted.

Concerning allegations that deputies were prevented from attending the electoral session, Deputy Mikhayil al-Dahir said he was "intercepted" by "armed men" and taken to Halat, AFP reported, adding that he was released unharmed later that day. "Ranking Lebanese security sources" cited by AL-ITTIHAD claimed that Uri Lubrani, coordinator of Israeli affairs in Lebanon, and Lebanese Forces Commander Samir Ja'ja' "supervised the detention operations at the Phalangists War Council" to prevent some deputies from attending the electoral session, WAKH reported. Lubrani, in an interview with Jerusalem radio, contended that Israel had refused a "great number of appeals" from Christian and non-Christian elements in Lebanon to "prevent the election of some candidates and aid in the election of others."

Lebanon lodged a "strongly worded complaint" with the UN secretary general over Israel's deportation of four Palestinians to Lebanon 17 August, Beirut radio declared. The complaint also demanded that Israel be prevented from deporting 25 other Palestinians served with deportation orders.

Palestinian Affairs

"Every person who was residing in the West Bank before 31 July 1988 is considered a Palestinian and not a Jordanian," declared a 22-point Jordanian Government statement carried by PETRA-JNA. The statement issued 20 August by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i limits the validity of Jordanian passports issued to West Bank residents to renewable 2-year terms. Those issued before 31 July will remain valid until they expire but will be amended to 2 years when renewed. The regulation also applies to Gaza Strip "citizens"; however, Jordanian passports which have been invalid for more than 1 year will not be renewed and no new passports will be issued to Gaza Strip residents. Family registration books held by West Bank residents are now valid only for identification purposes. Green cards for crossing the bridge are now limited to 1-month visits, except for students, Palestinians working abroad, and patients seeking medical treatment.

The West Bank Civilian Administration chief announced that the necessary visas and permits must be obtained from the Administration offices and clearance received from the income tax departments before traveling to Jordan, Jerusalem radio's Arabic service disclosed. Meanwhile, the JORDAN TIMES noted that the Jordanian Cabinet approved the appointment of Dr Ahmad Qatanani to the post of director general at the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department.

Concerning the venue of the planned PNC emergency session, WAKH reported that Algeria has offered to host the meeting. Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi also told WAKH that Algeria is "exerting intensive efforts to reconcile Jordan and the PLO." PLO official Hani al-Hasan, visiting Cairo, was told that the government would reopen the rest of the Palestinian offices in Egypt, London's AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT revealed.

Egypt

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz met with officials during two stop-over visits before and after his trip to Pakistan, MENA reported. During the meetings, they discussed the situation in Pakistan after President Ziaul Haq's death, regional developments, and the next round of talks on southern Africa, MENA noted.

Fifteen defendents, members of an "armed Nasirist organization" on trial for firearms violations and "communicating with Libya," were acquitted by the High Security Court for "lack of conclusive evidence," MENA reported. Another defendent in the case was found guilty and sentenced to 5 years imprisonment, MENA added.

Western Sahara

A Polisario Front statement cited by AFP claimed 180 Moroccan casualties in an attack on Rabat's desert defense wall. The Front also said it took 35 prisoners, including 5 NCO's; occupied 9 Moroccan bases; and "destroyed" a "radar point."

Pakistan

The late President Ziaul Haq was buried 20 August with "full national and military honors," Islamabad radio announced. "Thousands and thousands" of people, including "hundreds" of dignitaries from around the world, gathered to pay their last respects, the radio noted. After the funeral, "Acting President" Ghulam Ishaq Khan told a group of foreign dignitaries that Zia's "memory" would be "kept alive" and that Pakistan would "fulfill its promises," the radio reported. Ishaq Khan told a news conference that the 16 November elections would take place as scheduled and that the courts would decide if political parties can take part, the radio noted. Ishaq Khan held separate meetings with the PRC, Japanese, USSR, Iranian, and Nepalese funeral delegations, according to Islamabad and Tehran radios and TASS.

A "remote-controlled bomb" is the "likely cause" of the plane crash that killed Zia, according to "experts" cited by AFP. The Air Force issued a statement saying all civilian and military officials involved in arranging the president's trip and airport personnel are "under surveillance," AFP added.

Five persons were injured when "rival Muslim sects" clashed in Parachinar after a group of Shi'ites publicly celebrated Ziaul Haq's death, AFP reported.

Afghanistan

"Between 600 and 800 people" died in the mujahidin rocket attack which "virtually destroyed" the Kelagay munitions and fuel base, according to diplomatic sources cited by AFP.

Six persons were killed in Kabul when a truck "packed" with explosives blew up in the downtown area, TASS and Kabul radio reported.

The entire "provincial leadership" of Konduz was "relieved of office" after "criminal carelessness" led to the city's capture recently by rebel soldiers, according to a PDPA Central Committee member interviewed by Moscow television. However, life in Konduz is currently "completely normal," BAKHTAR announced.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Algeria Trying to Reconcile Jordan, PLO

JN2108093588 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0754 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 21 Aug (WAKH)—Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi said that his country is exerting intensive efforts to reconcile Jordan and the PLO.

In a statement published by the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD in Abu Dhabi today, Ibrahimi said that Algeria is making every effort to reconcile PLO and Jordanian viewpoints in the interest of the Palestine question.

He also announced that Algeria is officially ready to host the PNC emergency session. However, he said that fixing the date of the PNC session is a strictly Palestinian affair. [passage omitted]

Islamic Affairs

ICO Calls For End to 'Zionist Crimes'

LD2008230088 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2045 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Jiddah, 20 Aug (SPA)—The Islamic Conference Organization has called on all peace-loving nations and all states and governments to take practical measures to put an end to the Zionist crimes in the occupied holy Jerusalem and occupied Palestine.

In a statement issued by ICO Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada on the occasion of the anniversary of the burning of the holy Al-Aqsa mosque tomorrow, 21 August, Pirzada appealed to the world's states to work immediately for establishing a just and lasting peace in Palestine, Jerusalem, and the occupied Arab areas. [passage omitted]

The ICO statement affirmed that the anniversary of the burning of the holy Al-Aqsa mosque is a day of Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people who are witnessing an uprising led by their own sons against Zionist occupation.

Despite the continuing worldwide condemnation and denunciation of this abominable crime and other violations of Islamic shrines, the Al-Aqsa mosque remains a permanent target of the Zionists who are trying to make holy Jerusalem Jewish and obliterate its Islamic and Arab identity.

The ICO pointed out that the Israeli enemy since the occupation of holy Jerusalem in 1967 has been carrying out excavations beneath the foundations of the holy Al-Aqsa mosque under the pretext of searching for the ruins of the alleged temple of Solomon.

The ICO says that the real aim behind the excavations is to undermine the structure of the holy Al-Aqsa mosque, weaken its foundations and blow it up.

The ICO called on the international community to take the necessary steps to prevent the Zionist enemy from continuing this policy aimed at defiling holy Islamic places.

Palestinian Affairs

Soviet Envoy To Meet PLO Leaders in Tunis

JN1908091088 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Aug (WAKH)—Press reports in Abu Dhabi today said that the Soviet Foreign Ministry has dispatched Robert Turdeyev [name as received], deputy chief of the Regional Issues and Problems Department of the Near Eastern and North African Countries Administration, as special envoy to Tunis to meet with PLO leaders.

AL-ITTIHAD in its issue today says that the Soviet envoy will discuss with PLO leaders developments that have taken place following Jordan's measures to sever administrative and legal links with the West Bank and the recommendations adopted by the PLO Central Council on the intention to establish a provisional government and proclaim a Palestinian state in the occupied territories.

Sources in Moscow told AL-ITTIHAD that the Soviet envoy will leave Tunis for Damascus to discuss these developments with Syrian officials.

Palestinian Dialogue To Begin in Libya 1 Sep

JN2008105888 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0910 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Aug (WAKH)—Informed Palestinian sources have affirmed that a direct Palestinian dialogue will begin in the Libyan capital on the anniversary of the 1 September Revolution to discuss Palestinian relations and the PLO's unity. The Abu Dhabi-based AL-ITTIHAD today cites these sources as saying that this subject was the focus of the talks PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat held in Libya last week.

The Palestinian sources added that PLO Executive Committee member Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh will contact the Damascus-based Palestinian leaderships while he is there.

The Palestinian sources said that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi might send a personal envoy or messages to Palestinian leaders such as [PFLP-GC leader] Ahmad Jibril and [Popular Struggle Front leader] Samir Ghawshah to urge them to attend these meetings. However, the positions of these two factions have not yet become clear with regard to participation in the open dialogue, despite the fact that the attendance of the Popular Struggle Front is most likely.

The Palestinian sources quoted 'Arafat as saying that he affirmed to the Libyan president that he will not insist on attending personally if his presence would prevent some leaders from attending. The Fatah Movement could be represented by any of its leaders in this dialogue.

The sources said that the recent visit to Libya by 'Arafat could have been the most successful visit in terms of inter-Palestinian dialogue and the PLO's unity.

'Arafat Chairs Joint PLO-PNC Meeting in Tunis

LD2008154188 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 GMT 88

[Text] TAP has learned from an informed Palestinian source that the PLO Executive Committee and the PNC chairmanship [as heard] held a joint meeting in Tunis this morning, chaired by Yasir 'Arafat.

The same source said that this meeting will spend 2-3 days discussing developments arising from the Jordanian decision to sever administrative and legal ties with the West Bank, in addition to preparing to convene a PNC meeting within 1 month, in accordance with the decision of the Palestinian Central Council which met in Baghdad early this month.

The same source said that the date and venue of the PNC meeting will be arranged during this meeting.

Committee Meeting Suspended

NC2208130488 Paris AFP in English 1252 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Tunis, Aug 22 (AFP)—The Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) suspended a two-day meeting here Monday with no firm decisions on how to respond to Jordan's plan to sever links with the Israeli-occupied West Bank, Palestinian officials said.

Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih, president of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, said the committee adjourned without setting a date or venue for a full meeting of the PNC.

There were likewise no political decisions taken at the meeting here, he added. [passage omitted]

Shaykh al-Sa'ih refused to comment on reports that the PLO was leaning toward the formation of either a provisional government on the West Bank or the proclamation of an independent state.

"Until now we have come to no definitive results," he said. "The legal and political committee of the PLO presented its first report on the matter. We are waiting for it to respond to certain questions."

The Executive Committee, Palestinian sources said, was to meet again near the end of the month.

Both Tunisia and Algeria have offered to host a PNC meeting, according to Shaykh al-Sa'ih.

PNC To Meet 'Second Half' of September

NC2108145088 Paris AFP in English 1442 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Algiers, Aug 21 (AFP)—The Palestine National Council, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, is to meet here in the second half of September to discuss the future of the Israeli-occupied West Bank, Palestinian sources said Sunday.

The meeting, for which no exact date has been decided, will focus on Jordan's decision July 31 to sever all administrative and legal ties with the West Bank and the possibility of declaring a Palestinian government-in-exile, the sources said here.

Jordan re-enforced the decision on Saturday when it announced that it considered residents of the West Bank to be Palestinian and not Jordanian.

Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i announced Saturday that West Bank Palestinians would be provided with temporary Jordanian passports, valid for only two years, that would in effect be merely "travel documents."

King Husayn earlier this month said West Bank residents could keep their Jordanian passports "until the creation of a Palestinian state." [passage omitted]

Al-Hurani Says PLO Adheres to Cairo Declaration

NC2008084488 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0805 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 20 Aug (MENA)—'Abdallah al-Hurani, a member of the PLO Executive Committee, has asserted that the PLO adheres to the Cairo Declaration, which rejects and renounces terrorism and restricts Palestinian fedayeen operations to the occupied territories. At the same time, he did not rule out that some suspect parties might carry out operations outside the occupied territories with the objective of harming the PLO's reputation. He said the PLO condemns in advance and rejects all such acts.

In an interview published today by the AL-JUMHURIYAH newspaper, Al-Hurani said current dialogue within the PLO is revolving around the formulation of a political program for Palestinian struggle in the coming stage, particularly in the wake of the Jordanian decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West

Bank. Al-Hurani pointed out that this political program will be based on principles proceeding from internationally legitimate resolutions. It also will take into account the manner in which these resolutions will be brought in line with the Palestinian people's national rights of return to the homeland, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state.

The Palestinian official affirmed that all Palestinians will be represented in a Palestinian government in the event it is formed. He pointed out that this also includes the Palestinians residing in Jordan's East Bank, who are regarded as an intergral part of the Palestinian people although they currently possess Jordanian nationality.

In conclusion, Al-Hurani said that the PLO will undertake extensive activity in the coming stage, including contacts with Arab countries and all friendly countries, including the Soviet Union and a number of Western capitals, for the purpose of consulting on future Palestinian action.

'Abbas Cited on 'Provisional Government'

JN2108090988 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0756 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Aug (WAKH)—A senior Palestinian official has announced that the PLO's recognition of UN Resolutions Nos 242 and 338 depends on the Israeli enemy's reaction and recognition of the Palestinian people's rights.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD published here today, PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas said that international developments, represented by the detente between the two superpowers, in addition to Jordan's decision to disengage legal and administrative relations with the West Bank, as well as the escalation and promotion of the uprising, have made it necessary to seek a new formula for the next diplomatic and political Palestinian move. This produced the idea of a provisional Palestinian government and the independence of the Palestinian state through the United Nations.

Mahmud 'Abbas affirmed that the PLO is currently holding extensive consultations with the Arab and Western states, the Soviet Union, and the nonaligned countries to proclaim the establishment of a provisional government. He said the PNC will be convened as soon as the committees conclude their work. He said it will be convened in Algiers, Baghdad, or Tunis.

The Palestinian official said that his talks with Egyptian officials dealt with the situation in Gaza. Within this framework, he affirmed that President Mubarak personally informed the Palestinian delegation that Egypt does not accept a partial solution to the Palestine question through the Gaza Strip because such a solution would certainly be at the expense of the comprehensive solution on which Egypt insists in all its positions. He said the United States is still governed by the three no's put forward by its former secretary of state, Henry Kissinger.

The Palestinian official revealed that the U.S. ambassador in Cairo informed the Egyptian officials of the readiness of Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near East and South Asia affairs, to meet the Palestinian delegation. However, Murphy changed his mind, perhaps due to current election considerations, 'Abbas added.

Abu Sharif: Israel Will Eventually Negotiate

JN2008070488 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0600 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpts] In a press statement in Baghdad last night, the PLO chairman's spokesman, Bassam Abu Sharif, said Israel will sooner or later negotiate with the PLO within the framework of an international peace conference. He added: Our aim is not to topple the Israeli state, but to establish an Arab state in Palestine.

Bassam Abu Sharif referred to statements by Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin, leaders of the Israeli coalition government, in which they said Israel should negotiate with the Palestinians on the future of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Abu Sharif said Peres and Shamir understood that resistance will continue in the occupied territories until the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

According to Abu Sharif, what remains to be done is to establish a balance of power to convince the Israelis that the Palestinians who might hold talks with them will accept only the PLO as their sole representative at the negotiating table. [passage omitted]

Hani al-Hasan, the PLO chairman's political adviser, said in Cairo yesterday that the PLO, contrary to Israel, is ready to work for a settlement of the Middle East question. Al-Hasan added that the PLO has a peace initiative which it will present to participants in the international peace conference, but apologized for not elaborating on this initiative. He feared that the United States would use its veto at the Security Council to prevent the United Nations from recognizing a Palestinian government. Hani al-Hasan also said: We depend on Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Egypt to dissuade the United States from using the veto. He added that this subject was discussed in detail 3 days ago by President Husni Mubarak and the PLO delegation currently in Cairo.

PNC member Sa'id Kamal, who is also in Cairo, said the PLO is studying the possibility of proclaiming a provisional government, and not a government-in-exile, after the next PNC session.

PFLP-GC's Jibril Threatens Operations

JN2208071488 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] PFLP-GC Secretary General Ahmad Jibril has made a statement to REUTER in which he said: The only language understood by the Zionist enemy and which we must use is the language of steel and fire, not the language of dialogue, concessions, and surrender. Jibril added: The PFLP-GC did not want in the previous phase to carry out operations attracting attention and focusing light on the heroic uprising of our people inside the occupied territory against the Zionist enemy. However, this does not mean that we are not preparing to carry out important and outstanding operations against the Zionist enemy in the future.

Jibril said: We will carry out operations similar to the qibyah [glider] operation in the future when we feel that the uprising inside the occupied territory needs such an operation. He said: We are carrying out daily operations against this enemy.

Jibril announced that the PFLP-GC will not take part in the work of the PNC session, which is scheduled to convene within a month in Algiers or Tunis to discuss the subject of forming a Palestinian government. He said: The idea of forming a Palestinian government at present will only have one task, which is to surround the uprising inside the occupied territory and to abandon the Palestinian people's national rights. The other task of such a government will be to tear up the PLO's National Charter, on whose basis we agree with the PLO. Such a formation also would mean the dissolution of the PLO.

Jibril added: The present PNC is illegal after its term has expired. We have asked and are asking persistently for the formation of a new PNC based on the program of the Palestinian National Charter. Furthermore, we do not trust the present council.

Jibril said Yasir 'Arafat has violated the PLO National Charter and deviated from the resolutions of Palestinian national unanimity. He added: 'Arafat is pursuing serious courses by expressing his readiness to recognize Israel and to hold a dialogue with it.

PFLP Claims Infiltration Operation Into Israel

JN2008124488 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The PFLP led by George Habash has claimed responsibility in a communique issued in Sidon, southern Lebanon, for an infiltration operation into northern Israel which its fighters carried out at dawn today. The PFLP communique affirms that the elements of one of the commando groups that took part in the operation were killed during clashes with Israeli soldiers that lasted 4 hours in north Galilee.

Fatah Revolutionary Council Claims Haifa Attack

NC2108175688 Paris AFP in English 1750 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Beirut, Aug 21 (AFQ)—The Fatah Revolutionary Council headed by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] on Sunday claimed responsibility for a grenade attack Saturday in the northern Israeli port of Haifa that injured 25 people.

Israel's Minister of Police Hayim Bar-Lev earlier in the day announced that three Palestinians from the West Bank community of Janin had been detained in connection with the explosion.

The Fatah Revolutionary Council, in a statement here, said the attack was carried out by the Naji al-'Ali unit, part of a larger group named for Khalil al-Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad. It said all members of the unit returned safely from the mission.

Naji al-'Ali, a Palestinian cartoonist, was assassinated in London in August 1987, while Abu Jihad was gunned down in his home in Tunis April 16, allegedly by an Israeli commando unit.

The statement said Saturday's attack was aimed at solidifying "the path of struggle and armed revolution as the only choice open to our nation and our people against the Zionist-American enemy until the liberation of all the land of Palestine and the uprooting of the Zionist enemy from our Arab nation."

PFLP-GC Claims Attack

NC2208061188 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] The Fatah Movement-The Revolutionary Council, which is led by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], has claimed responsibility for the explosion that took place in Haifa on Saturday night and injured 25 persons. The PFLP-General Command had earlier also claimed responsibility for the explosion.

Chad

Libyan Summit Denied; Airspace Violation Charged

AB2008200288 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Report by unidentified correspondent and correspondent Moussa Daga from Ndjamena—live or recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] The Tunisian daily newspaper, (LE RENOUVEAU), an organ of the Democratic Constitution, announced last Thursday that President Hissein Habre will pay a visit to Tunisia toward the middle of next week, and that there will be a summit that will soon bring together Tunisian President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, the Chadian head of state, and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. According to informed sources, the newspaper states that the main agenda for the meeting will be to settle the dispute between Chad and Libya, and to restore dialogue between Tripoli and Ndjamena. Is not this statement rather surprising, Moussa Daga?

[Daga] Yes, such a statement from an organ close to the Tunisian authorities would appear to be reliable, which is why it was widely taken up by foreign media. But officials in Tunis did not confirm it. (?We Chadians) were rather surprised by the announcement of such news by the press. Although the Tunisian minister of foreign affairs visited Chad, there was no formal agreement with President Hissein Habre concerning details of a summit, especially details of the agenda, place, and date of a summit.

Moreover, nothing in Libya's attitude indicates that such a summit is imminent. On the contrary, Tripoli has not stopped concentrating troops and materiel around Chad, and it continues to violate Chadian airspace, as it did this morning in the Tibesti. So, there is nothing to show that the Libyan regime is well disposed toward such a meeting.

As far as President Hissein Habre is concerned, he is always ready—as demonstrated by his presence at all the peace meetings—to meet anyone to discuss peace. In return, Chad expects Libya to be ready and sincere for such a meeting.

Libyan Air Force Flies Over Tibesti Locality

AB2108064288 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Libya does not seem to listen to the voice of reason. Once again, the Libyan Air Force has flown over Chadian airspace. Yesterday morning, it flew over the Koumou locality in the Tibesti region. This is the second time the Libyan Air Force has flown over Chadian territory within 36 hours. Through its acts, Libya is (?breaking) the cease-fire ordered by the OAU in September 1987.

Egypt

Shultz Stops Over at Cairo Airport, Meets Ghali

NC2108111988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1055 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 21 Aug (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that he met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz when the latter stopped over at the Cairo airport this morning.

Ghali said that during the meeting they discussed the situation in Pakistan in the wake of President Ziaul Haq's death, recent Middle East developments, and the current 4-party talks on southern Africa, particularly the next round due to be held in the Congolese capital of Brazzaville at the end of August.

Shultz arrived at the Cairo airport from Islamabad early this morning on his way back to the United States.

Ghali Hopes Cease-Fire Brings Peace, Stability

NC1908122288 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The Arab Republic of Egypt has voiced its hopes that the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran, due to take effect tomorrow, will mark the beginning of a new phase of peace and stability in the Gulf region. Such a development will enable the Iranian and Iraqi people to rebuild their countries, embark on a phase of development, reconstruction, and stability, and contribute effectively to resolving regional issues, particularly the Palestinian issue, so that the Middle East region may be able to establish the peace its peoples seek.

This has been stated by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Ghali Protests Israeli Treatment of Palestinians

NC2108124188 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 21 Aug (MENA)—Egypt today protested the detention, imprisonment, and deportation of Palestinians, as well as other procedures undertaken by the Israeli authorities which contravene the simplest human rights.

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, stressed in his meeting today with Shim'on Shamir, new Israeli ambassador in Cairo, that these measures run contrary to the provisions of the Geneva convention for the protection of civilians living under occupation.

Notes 'Cold' Peace With Israel
NC2208071788 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0635 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Aug (MENA)—Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has asserted that the meeting in Cairo between former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Palestinian officials is bound to strengthen ties between the Americans and the Palestinians. He said that the repetition of such meetings will bring us closer to a solution of the Palestinian issue.

In a statement to the Abu Dhabi-based AL-ITTIHAD newspaper, to be published today, Ghali said the present lukewarm relations between Egypt and Israel can be attributed to the arbitrary measures adopted by Israeli military authorities against Palestinians in the occupied territories. He described the peace existing between Cairo and Tel Aviv as a cold one, noting that communications between both are extemely limited.

Dr Ghali added that Egypt will support any PLO decision which would help to support the Palestinian position and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, whether through the proclamation of a government-in-exile or an independent Palestinian state.

Al-Baz Meets With Palestinian Officials
NC2008144788 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Dr 'Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, today met with Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, and Sa'id Kamal, PLO representative in Cairo.

Following the meeting, Kamal said that they discussed the Palestinian issue in the light of recent developments, as well as further efforts to stimulate the peace process. He added that the meeting was a follow-up to one held last Wednesday between President Husni Mubarak and a Palestinian delegation.

Cairo To Reopen Remaining PLO Facilities
PM1908144588 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Aug 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Egyptian-Palestinian Agreement on State and Government Formation Steps"]

[Excerpts] Cairo—AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that the Egyptian Government has notified the Palestinian delegation, which will be concluding its talks in Cairo today, that it will reopen the rest of the Palestinian offices in Egypt. These offices were closed down after the April 1987 PNC meetings in Algiers.

Egypt had agreed to reopen the main PLO office in Cairo in November 1987. The Egyptian and Palestinian sides yesterday actually began taking executive measures to reopen the Fatah office in Cairo, the Palestinian information office, and the offices of the workers, lawyers, and women's unions in Egypt. [passage omitted]

A responsible Palestinian source has confirmed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the Egyptian and Palestinian views regarding the declaration of an independent Palestinian state and the formation of a provisional goverment are identical. He added that the two sides agreed on implementating steps for such a government to ensure world support through international legitimacy.

PLO Political Program Encouraged
JN2108190888 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 18 Aug 88 p 7

[Editorial: "The Palestinian Political Program"]

[Text] Following the meeting between the Palestinian delegation currently visiting Cairo and President Husni Mubarak, 'Abdallah Hurani, PLO Executive Committee member and the delegation's spokemsan, said that President Mubarak and the delgation agreed that the PLO, through its provisional government, propose a political program that would be internationally accepted. In this way, the world may understand the PLO's rational and logical approaches. No doubt, these words have several meanings. There has long been a need for the PLO to clearly outline a Palestinian concept to the world. Such a concept will provide the basis for a move by those who want to support the Palestine question on the international level. It will also serve as a basis for any dialogue or negotiations between the PLO and any other parties concerned with the Middle East conflict. Perhaps we should recall, for example, that the European group, ever since it defined principles by which it could move toward a settlement of the Palestine question, has long urged a specific and declared Palestinian position that may support the group's role.

Moreover, the statement by the Palestinian delegation's spokesman shows that by proposing an internationally accepted political program through its provisional government, the PLO would remove the pretext of those who obstruct settlement and say that the PLO lacks a definite position on the basis of which negotiations can be held. Such a program will also close the door to any statements that may be issued here and there. These statements offer concepts that sometimes conflict with the unified Palestinian position. Such statements used to be a source of great distortions of the PLO, its position, and its efforts to resolve the Palestine question. Therefore, the presence of such a political program is of great importance as it will give the world the opportunity to understand the true Palestinian approach in an unequivocal, undisputable manner.

2 Libyan Soldiers Cross Border, Seek Refuge

NC2108210088 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2037 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 21 Aug (MENA)—Two Libyan soldiers fleeing the Army of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi have sought refuge in Egypt after crossing the border and surrendering to Egyptian authorities.

AL-AKHBAR says, in its Monday issue, that the two Libyan soldiers justified their request for refuge in Egypt by saying that they wanted to live in security. They noted that they have been anxious [word indistinct] since they joined the Libyan Army, and have not been reassured about their fate, no matter where Al-Qadhdhafi would send them.

The two Libyan soldiers are from Benghazi and both are [word indistinct] years old.

1 Sentenced, 15 Acquitted in Nasirist Group Case

NC2108094188 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0910 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Cairo, 21 Aug (MENA)—The Higher State Security Court sentenced Jamal Munib to 5 years in prison today. He is the third defendant in the case of the armed Nasirist organization charged with communicating with Libya. The other 15 defendants in the case have been acquitted.

In its ruling, the court cited Jamal Munib's conviction for possession of firearms, ammunition, and explosives without a license and using them in a manner that put the possessions of others at risk. The court cleared him of the other charges of which he had been accused.

The court noted the lack of conclusive evidence to convict the other defendants on the same charge; the contradictions between the testimony of the original witness, defendant Jamal Munib, and the testimony of the other defendants; and the court's lack of trust in the third defendant's statements.

The court will announce the full text of its verdict on Thursday [25 Aug].

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Returning Envoys

LD2108212988 Tripoli JANA in English 1738 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution received the envoys he sent to Arab heads of state and monarchs to deliver the project of the Arab union proposed by the leader during the Arab emergency summit in Algeria which included Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

The envoys briefed the leader on the results of their missions asserting that the Arab presidents and monarchs expressed their approval in principle of the project and considered it as a great step along the path of the Arab nation's unity.

The Arab president and monarchs affirmed the importance of this project and that if realised it will stir unity feelings, strengthen unionist orientations and consolidate the thinking of setting up regional unities as a first step on the road of the establishment of total Arab unity.

The Arab president and monarchs considered the project in its political framework and economic contents as meeting the requirements of the era of the world's countries turning into political and economic blocs.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia promised to give a reply, on his part, to the project of the Arab union after 15 days from its delivery and study.

Regarding the issues of the hour, the Arab presidents and monarchs informed the envoys of the leader of the revolution that the decision of the king of Jordan to relinquish the legal and administrative ties with the West Bank came as a response to the persistent demands of the Palestinians and the lifting of Jordanian domination over them.

The Jordanian minister for the occupied territory gave the envoy of the leader of the revolution a detailed report on the justifications and facts of the Jordanian decision pointing out that the decision responds to the wishes of the PLO.

On the other hand, the Iraqi president Saddam Husayn asserted to the envoy of the leader of the revolution that the Kurds as Iraqi citizens enjoy all their political and cultural rights and that amongst the Iraqi members of the government there are Kurdish ministers as well as members of the Iraqi parliament. And that the Kurds in Iraq enjoy full rights better than in any other country.

The envoys asserted when giving the details of their missions that they formed an impression that the whole Arab world is embarking on the removal of artificial borders and the establishment of the freedom of movement for the Arab citizen with identity card following the example of Great Jamahiriyah and Tunisia.

Regarding the Gulf war, the Arab presidents and monarchs lauded the role of Great Jamahiriyah and the leader of the revolution personally in ending the Gulf War.

The officials in the Arab Gulf countries who received the envoys of the leader that they are seeking peace in the whole Arab region and not only between Iran and Iraq. [sentence as received]

Foreign Minister Sends Condolences to Pakistan

LD1908195288 Tripoli JANA in English 1413 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison has sent a telegram to the foreign minister of Pakistan, S. Yaqub Khan. The telegram reads:

I share with yourself and the family of the departed president Mohammad Ziaul Haq entreating Allah, most eminent and almighty, to grant you patience and consolation. We depend on Allah and are all going back to him.

[Signed] The Secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison

Briefs

Aviation Protocol With Syria

Tripoli, Hannibal [August] 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Signing took place this morning in Tripoli on a protocol agreement for joint cooperation in the field of civil aviation between Great Jamahiriyah and sisterly Syria. The protocol agreement was signed by the secretary of the Administrative Committee of the Public Corporation of Civil Aviation and Meteorology and the director of civil aviation in sisterly Syria. The agreement included the opening of a new air way between the city of Benghazi and Damascus on the basis of joint operation to ease the travelling of citizens in both sisterly countries. It also included the work towards the success of the means leading to the integration of joint cooperation between both sisterly countries in the field of civil aviation in a way that serves the interests of the one Arab people in both Great Jamahiriyah and sisterly Syria. [Text] [*LD2008045588 Tripoli JANA in English 1805 GMT 19 Aug 88*]

Morocco

Premier Laraki Departs for Ziaul Haq Funeral

LD1908131288 Rabat MAP in English 1205 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Rabat, Aug 19 (MAP)—King Hassan II has sent a cable of condolences to Pakistani President ad Interim Ghulam Ishaq Khan, following the death of Pakistani President Ziaul Haq.

In this message, the sovereign expressed his "deep sorrow" at this tragic incident, "all the more afflicting (?that) it occur in these critical circumstances, at a moment his country needed him most, and the Islamic ummah in need for men of his stamp". [sentence as received]

The sovereign expressed certitude "that the believing people of Pakistan will know how to fill the vacuum and choose the wise man and leader of great stature at its head".

King Hassan will be represented at the late President Zia's funeral by Premier Azzedine Laraki due tomorrow.

Laraki had left Rabat early this morning for Pakistan.

Algerian Foreign Minister Ibrahimi Arrives

LD2008033888 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi arrived in Rabat this afternoon as the personal envoy of President Chadli Bendjedid to Moroccan King Hassan II. Dr Ibrahimi was welcomed at Rabat airport by Abdellatif Filali, the foreign affairs and cooperation minister; the Algerian ambassador to Morocco, Abdelhamid Mahri; and the Moroccan ambassador to Algeria, Abdellatif Barbish.

Received by King Hassan

LD2008034288 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] We have just received the following item: This evening at the royal palace in Skheirat His Majesty King Hassan II received the Algerian minister of foreign affairs, Dr Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi.

Makes Statement to Press, Departs

LD2108015688 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Algeria-Morocco: Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi has left Rabat this afternoon. As a special envoy of President Chadli Bendjedid, the Algerian foreign minister was twice received by King Hassan II.

The talks, held in a brotherly and constructive atmosphere, dealt with issues of common interest, said Dr Ibrahimi in a statment to the Moroccan and international press. Bilateral relations, the Western Sahara, and the Palestinian question were the three main topics raised by the press with Dr Taleb Ibrahimi. As for bilateral relations, they are rapidly developing, said the Algerian minister. The joint commission will meet next October to boost these relations.

As for the Western Sahara, concerning a question on the Algerian point of view on the UN-OAU peace proposals for the settlement of the Western Sahara conflict, the special envoy of President Chadli Bendjedid said Algeria had not received these proposals. Algeria's views have not been sought by the UN and the OAU. Dr Taleb Ibrahimi stressed, however, that Algeria has always given its support and encouragement to the peace process.

Regarding the Palestinian question, Algeria is ceaselessly striving in order that all decisions should serve the sacred case of the Palestinian people, said the Algerian minister. Concerning the forthcoming meeting of the Palestinian National Council, Algeria has responded positively on holding it in Algeria, but it is up to the Palestinian leadership to decide on the date of its session, stressed the minister.

King Receives Newly Appointed, Departing Envoys

LD2008061588 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Aug 88

[Excerpts] This morning the courtyards of the royal palace in Skheirat witnessed intensive royal activity. First, His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, who was accompanied by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed and His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Rashid, received a number of ambassadors, to whom the noble sovereign handed credentials as ambassadors of his majesty to a number of states. His majesty made the following appointments:
Abdelouahab Chorfi as ambassador to Senegal;
Saadeddine Taieb as ambassador to Nigeria;
Abderrahmane Ben Omar as ambassador to Mauritania;
Mohamed Halim as ambassador to Romania;
Abderrahmane Bouchaara as ambassador to the People's Republic of China;
Rachid el Fassi Fihri as ambassador to Guinea;
Mohamed Salah Zaimi as ambassador to Bangladesh and Thailand;
Abdelaziz Laabi as ambassador to Greece;
Mohamed Bennis as ambassador to Ivory Coast;
Mohamed Benaouda as ambassador to Venezuela;
Boubaker Mansouri as ambassador to Bahrain;
Tahar Nejjar as ambassador to Niger and Chad;
Abdallah Sriri as ambassador to Malaysia;
Mehdi Mimoun as ambassador to Cameroon; and
Noureddine Soufiani as ambassador to Korea. [passage omitted]

Afterwards, the noble sovereign received a number of ambassadors who had come to bid farewell to his majesty at the end of their mission in Morocco. These were:
the ambassador of Kuwait, Mr 'abd al-'Aziz Abdallah al-Sar'awi;
the ambassador of Qatar, Mr Jasim Yusuf Jamal;
the ambassador of the Yemeni Arab Republic, Dr. 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud;
the ambassador of Senegal, Mr Boubacar Diop;
the ambassador of Gabon, Mr Abdoulaye Djipano; and
the ambassador of Belgium, Mr Jean Melsens. [passage omitted]

Addresses New Envoys

LD1908135788 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Addressing the new ambassadors, the sovereign gave them wise advice and high directives concerning their new mission. He urged them to always keep in mind that they belong to a country having "a secular authenticity and century-old history, enjoying the virtue of co-existence with all countries, of peace and of good behaviour towards others, and working for consolidating ties among all human beings for the good of all". [passage omitted]

On the occasion, the sovereign decorated the ambassadors of Kuwait and Qatar with the Alaouite Wissam, Grand Officer's Order, and the ambassadors of the Arab Republic of Yemen, of Senegal, of Gabon, and of Belgium with the Commander Order, Alawite Wissam.

King To Grant Amnesty on Revolution's Anniversary

LD1908222288 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Summary] Tomorrow the Moroccan people will mark the 35th anniversary of the revolution of the king and the people. To mark the anniversary, King Hassan II ordered the suspension of the remainder of the prison sentences or of detention for 240 detainees, granting amnesty to 16 others while upholding their fines, commuting the sentences of detention or imprisonment for 75 prisoners, granting amnesty and waiving the fines of 6 persons, and turning life imprisonment to a fixed-term sentence for 4 prisoners.

Polisario Front Says 180 Soldiers Killed

NC2008183788 Paris AFP in English 1822 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Algiers, Aug 20 (AFP)—Polisario Front troops killed or wounded 180 Moroccan soldiers and took 35 prisoners in an attack on Rabat's desert defence wall in the Western Sahara, the Front said here Saturday. Observers here said the attack was the biggest launched by the Polisario this year in the war against Moroccan control of the former Spanish colony of Western Sahara.

It followed proposals for a settlement to the 12-year struggle from United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. He called for a cease-fire and a UN-organised referendum in the sparsely-populated land. The deadline for a response to the proposals from both sides, who had greeted them positively, is September 1.

Among those taken prisoner in the attack Thursday were five non-commissioned officers, the Front said.

The Sahrawi attack on the Haouza section in the northwest of the defense wall began at dawn and continued for five hours over a 15 kilometre (nine mile) front and carried on over the wall for eight kilometres (four miles) into Moroccan territory, the communique said. Nine Moroccan bases were occupied and the radar point "Razet", seven kilometres (three miles) beyond the wall, was destroyed, the Polisario said.

The statement also gave a long list of military equipment captured including troop transporters, munitions, mortars and machineguns.

Polisario's spokesman for external affairs Bechir Mustapha Sayed said Friday the Sahrawi movement had recently restructured its army.

Sudan

Al-Mahdi on Challenges Facing Government

LD2008200188 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 20 (SUNA)—Halting the civil war in the south, implementing the social contract and carrying out the administrative reform, are the real challenges for overcoming the domestic deficit, Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said today. On the recent rain and floods Al-Mahdi said the necessary measures were taken for surpassing the crisis.

Nile Reaches New High Level Near Khartoum

JN1908190288 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Aug (SUNA)—The level of the Blue Nile today continued to rise near Khartoum where it reached 16.60 meters, with a 1 cm increase from yesterday's level.

The Irrigation Ministry today issued strong warnings. It said it is expected that the Blue Nile level near Khartoum will continue to rise during the next 2 days. The ministry urged citizens to be highly cautious.

On the same day, 19 August of 1946, the Nile reached a level of 16.62 meters during the Nile flooding of that year.

Victim Resettlement Approved

EA2008151788 Khartoum SUNA in English 1040 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, [no date as received] Aug (SUNA)—The cabinet passed in a meeting a loan [words indistinct] project in southern Kordofan, western Sudan, and the Gezira scheme rehabilitation project.

Also reviewed by the cabinet were the measures necessary for containing the effect of torrential rains and floods especially in the field of environmental health and essential services. A new policy for the resettlement of the residents of the shanty towns displaced by rains, was also approved.

Donors Not To Distribute Aid

LD2008195788 Khartoum SUNA in English 1712 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, Aug. 20, (SUNA)—The government will not allow any relief organization or donor country to undertake the distribution of relief items, culture and information minister, the government's spokesman 'Abdallah Muhammad Ahmad Sa'id yesteray.

In press statements yesterday the spokesman said such trend is rejected because the government knows very well the areas of disasters and the bulk and kind of assistance the affected people need.

Groups of relief organizations and donor countries have expressed desire to take by themselves the distribution of the relief supplies to the peoples in the affected areas. On the relief situation two Iraqi planes loaded with drugs arrived here yesterday as part of the 12-plane Iraqi aid. On the other hand [a] delegation from the Islamic relief organization arrived here to inspect the affected areas in the national capital.

On the airlift between Saudi Arabia and Sudan, the Saudi ambassador here said the airlift will continue till the consequences of the crisis are removed.

Drinking Water Protected

LD2008210688 Khartoum SUNA in English 1722 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum Aug 20 (SUNA)—The Ministry of Health has taken the necessary measures to prevent the pollution of drinking water after [the] floods and rains disaster, Health Minister Dr Awhaj Muhammad Musa said today.

He said that a project in the regard will be implemented next week to include all the affected areas in the national capital and some regional towns.

Dr Awhaj who is also member of the Ministerial Committee for Relief said that he never received any report on the spread of any disease.

On the other hand, the minister of health received yesterday the visiting Japanese medical team and reviewed with them health situation during the meeting, the Japanese charge d'affaires in Khartoum who attended the meeting expressed his country's readiness to present an urgent medical assistance for floods and rains affected people in Sudan.

Flood Death Toll Reported

LD2008195588 Khartoum SUNA in English 1726 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum Aug 20 (SUNA)—The River Nile water level today recorded 16.65 meters high at Khartoum [was] described as the "critical point" by a Ministry of Irrigation statement released here today.

The statement said the Nile is expected to continue rising within the two coming days. On the other hand, the national capital commissioner called on citizens to rally for avoiding any floods dangers. He also appealed on the residents of the Nile banks to be vigilant.

On the other hand, the death toll of floods and torrential rains amounted to 64 persons in the national capital and one missing besides 215 others affected directly.

The total of the houses destroyed in the national capital by the same catastrophe reached 120,705.

Official on Latest Situation

JN2108194388 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1755 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Aug (SUNA)—The Blue Nile's water level has risen today along [word indistinct] from Sannar in the Central Region to the capital, Khartoum. The Nile's level [words indistinct] Madani in the Central Region today reached 20.35 meters compared with 20.24 meters yesterday and 20.42 meters on 21 August 1946, the greatest Nile flood in the near [word indistinct]. Engineer 'Isam Mustafa, secretary of water resources at the Ministry of Irrigation, said the Nile's level at Khartoum today rose to 16.72 meters compared to 16.65 meters yesterday morning and 16.72 meters on 21 August 1946. The highest Nile level at Khartoum was 16.77 meters in 1975. In a statement issued today on the flood condition, he said that today's Nile levels reached figures close to those recorded in 1946.

He said that drainage from the Sannar tanks today amounted to 715 cubic meters compared to 697 cubic meters yesterday [words indistinct] at the Sudanese-Ethiopian border today reached 12.47 meters compared to 12.29 meters yesterday morning. The Ministry of Irrigation said that the main Nile at northern Khartoum will continue to rise to threatening levels unless it is contained by all available means and careful watch. The minister stressed that the situation on the northern Nile has become very serious, demanding alertness and preparation to contain it.

Meanwhile floods have swept the cities of Al-Dabbah, Marawi, Kuraymah, Karmakol, Al-Ghabah, Tangasi, Mari, Dabbat al-Fukara', and Qanti [last two placenames as received] in the Northern Region. This has resulted in the collapse of houses, government institutions, and markets and has made thousands of families homeless. The floods have also resulted in the loss of (?thousands) of palm and fruit trees. Reports from the region say that there is an acute shortage of food and petroleum products. Medical care is also lacking, threatening the lives of citizens. Authorities in the Northern Region are continuing efforts to relieve striken people and evacuate threatened islands and areas.

In another development, Mr 'Ali 'Uthman 'Umar, minister of public works and housing planning and rapporteur of the Ministerial High Committee for Relief, ordered a quick provision of [word indistinct] sacks to face floods in the Northern Region. He also ordered the provision of relief supplies, medication, and serum. This came during his meeting yesterday with a delegation representing the region.

Health Minister: No Cholera Cases Reported

JN1908185488 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Aug (SUNA)—Health Minister Ohaj Musa Muhammad has said that, as of yesterday morning, no cholera cases were reported anywhere in Sudan.

His excellency stated to the newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, published here today, that the Health Ministry yesterday received a report from the expert of the Refugees Relief Agency who visited East Sudan. In his report, the expert says that some cases of intestinal cramps occurred, but were not related to cholera.

The health minister said that his ministry is prepared with personnel and medicines to face any health problem in the country.

Locust 'Invasion' Threatens Agriculture

JN1908173888 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, Aug. 29, SUNA—New swarms of desert locusts coming from Chad have invaded the western part of the country as the bulk of locust already invading Darfur and Kordofan "western regions" have been doubled 50 times, Agriculture Minister Dr. al-Fatih al-Tijani said today.

The new invasion of desert locust to the country will threaten the agricultural season with total devastation, the agriculture minister said adding that to save the current agricultural season, Sudan needs additional ten spray planes and 45 vehicles. The minister said that he would fly to Libya next week to discuss Libya's assistance to enable Sudan [to] eliminate the locust.

Ugandan President Arrives for Official Visit

LD2008195288 Khartoum SUNA in English 1728 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum Aug 20 (SUNA)—Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni arrived here today afternoon on a three day official visit to Sudan during which he will meet with the chairman and members of the Council of State and will hold an official negotiation with Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and senior officials in the government.

Upon arrival Mr Museveni described Sudanese-Ugandan relations as good and strong saying that his country is exerting efforts to mediate between the Sudanese Government and the Sudanese People Liberation Movement (SPLM) with aim at ending civil war in the south. On the other hand, Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi who received the Ugandan president at Khartoum Airport said that the Sudanese-Ugandan negotiation will tackle bilateral relations and [the] peace issue in the region.

He said that the Sudanese elected government calls for the necessity of establishing peace in the region [and] added that Sudan had sustained efforts for ending Chadian-Libyan conflict.

Mr al-Mahdi pointed out that the Ugandan president's visit to Sudan comes in the framework of the continued consultation between the two countries on bilateral relations and regional peace indicating that negotiations with neighbouring Ethiopia were successful.

It is understood that President Musaveni was received officially by Chairman of the Council of the State Sayyid Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani, council members Dr Pacifico Lado Lolik and Mr Mirghani al-Nasri and Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi.

The visiting Ugandan president met here today with Chairman of the Council of the State Sayyid Ahmad 'Ali al-Mirghani.

During the meeting, Sayyid al-Mirghani expressed readiness to promote Sudanese-Ugandan relations for realizing the interest of the two peoples.

The Ugandan president who arrived here today confirmed that the two countries are working for boosting good neighbourness relations. On the other hand, President Musaveni and the accompanying delegation will visit next Sunday Gezira scheme, Kinanah sugar factory (Central Region) and Bur Sudan town (Eastern Region).

Meets With Opposition Leader

JN2108142288 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Aug (SUNA) — Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni met here last night with a delegation of African Sudanese parties led by James Surur, opposition leader in the Constituent Assembly.

Discussions during the meeting dealt with peace and educational issues in southern Sudan. President Museveni was also briefed on the extent of the damage and casualties that resulted from the recent floods.

Meanwhile, the Ugandan president also conferred with a delegation representing the Islamic National Front, which outlined to him the solutions it envisages for Sudan's problems, including that of the south.

The State Council yesterday hosted a dinner for President Museveni, who had arrived that morning for a 3-day visit.

Newspaper Cited on SPLM Peace Initiative

JN2108111688 Khartoum SUNA in English 1025 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum Aug 21 (SUNA)—The Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) is making contacts with a number of African states including Algeria, Egypt and Uganda for reaching a formula on ending the civil war in the south the daily "ASSOUDANI" published today said.

The daily quoted sources at the Foreign Ministry as saying the current visit of Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni to the country aims at finding settlement to the border problems between Sudan and Uganda and to the Ugandan refugees problem in Sudan as well as acquainting himself with the latest developments of his mediation for halting the civil war in the southern part of the country.

Museveni arrived [in] the country yesterday on a three-day official visit.

State Minister Salih To Visit Iraq

JN2108142588 Khartoum SUNA in English 1045 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, Aug 21 (SUNA)—State minister at the Foreign Ministry, Taj al-Sir Mohammed Salih, will leave for Baghdad today carrying a written message from president of the Supreme Council, Ahmed al-Mirghani, to the Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with bilateral relations.

It is to be recalled that relations between Sudan and Iraq witnessed some deterioration as a result of the recent statement issued by the Sudanese Government regarding the assassination of the Iraqi oppostion Leader Mahdi al-Hakim last January in Khartoum.

SPLM-SPLA-DUP Talks Open 18 Aug

EA1908185688 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Talks between SPLM/SPLA and DUP [Democratic Unionist Party] delegations began in the Ethiopian capital yesterday. Our source in Addis Ababa says that the meeting, which is held in closed doors, continues today. The DUP delegates to the meeting are headed by Sayyid Sid Ahmad al-Husayn [former interior minister] and membership of: Sayyid Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil; Retired General Yusuf Ahmad Yusuf; and Sayyid Muhammad 'Abd al-Hakam Tayfur. The SPLM/SPLA delegation is headed by Commander Lam Akol Ajawin, alternate member of SPLM/SPLA Political-Military High Command, with the following as members: Alternate Commander Deng Alor Kuol, Captain Marhum Dudkat, and Captain Edward Lino Abyei.

Garang To Join Continuing DUP-SPLM Talks

JN2108122788 Khartoum SUNA in English 1048 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Aug (SUNA)—Leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) John Garang is expected to join the on-going talks between a delegation from the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) and an SPLM delegation in Addis Ababa.

A new round of talks was held yesterday between the two sides after a dinary [as received] meeting held between the DUP delegation and Ethiopian Foreign Minister Berhanu Bayeh. No information were disclosed about the plenary meeting but diplomat circles in the Ethiopian capital predicted that the DUP delegation might ask the Ethiopian Government to take positive role in the peace efforts exerted between the movement and the Sudanese Government.

Garang has not yet taken part in the peace talks held between the movement and the DUP delegation which arrived to Addis Ababa last Tuesday.

SPLA Dismisses Victory Report by Khartoum

EA1908185988 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The official spokesman of the SPLA High Command yesterday denied the statement issued by the Armed Forces HQ in Malakal that they had killed 473 SPLA soldiers in a battle that is alleged to have taken place 23 miles north of Wa'th.

The spokesman said that the SPLA has no forces anywhere north of Wa'th. The forces that were in Wa'th area belong to Anyanya II under command of Colonel Gordon Kong Panypiny. These forces left Wa'th area 3 weeks ago with Colonel Gordon Kong Panypiny to (Jokmir) for integration into the SPLA. Colonel Gordon Kong Panypiny was commissioned into the SPLA as alternate commander this week at (Jokmir) and is still there with his forces. (Jokmir) is 10 miles south of Nasir and nowhere near Wa'th.

The spokesman said that if the Sudanese Army has killed 473 north of Wa'th, then this must be innocent, defenseless, unarmed citizens. The officer commanding Malakal and the one who murdered these citizens must be investigated and tried for this barbaric atrocity. That this was a wanton massacre of unarmed civilians is very clear from Malakal's report on casualties, as they claimed that they killed 473 to only 2 killed of their soldiers.

The spokesman stressed that Wa'th area is flooded now, which means the enemy had no tanks or artillery. They simply went to a village and killed everyone. As they said, nobody escaped.

The spokesman went on to say that the guns alleged to have been captured are simply fabrications. What, for example, does the SPLA do with five SAM missile anti-air defense (?trigger) systems in a village 23 miles north of Wa'th?

The spokesman appealed to concerned patriots in Khartoum to press for the investigation of this incident, as the SPLA simply has no forces in the area where the battle is alleged to have taken place. If it is not true, then Khartoum is simply trying to raise the morale of its troops through fabrications. These will not save their garrisons from falling, concluded the spokesman.

Minister Denies Devaluation of Pound

JN2108200188 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Aug (SUNA)—Dr 'Umar Nur al-Da'im, minister of finance and economic planning, has said that according to current government policy, there will be no devaluation of the Sudanese pound. The minister told SUNA that the government's current policy is aimed at creating equilibrium in the domestic and foreign balance. He said the World Bank is the best financial institution of those cooperating with Sudan. He pointed out that Sudan's debts to the bank total $850 million.

Palestinians' Trial Adjourns Until 30 Aug

JN1908174788 Khartoum SUNA in English 1725 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Khartoum, Aug. 19, SUNA—The court trying five Palestinians accused of blasting the Acropole Hotel and the British Club in Khartoum, was adjourned until current Aug. 30.

Judge Ahmed al-Bashir told the daily AL-AYYAM today that the court has been delayed because of the catastrophic situation in the country that resulted from rain and floods.

The five Palestinians, who belong to an Arab revolutionary organization, had blasted the hotel and the club last May 15.

Bahrain

Minister Leaves To Attend Ziaul Haq Funeral
JN1908140688 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1305 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Manama, 19 Aug (WAKH)—Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim, Bahraini finance and national economy minister, left Manama for Pakistan today. He was delegated by Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah to represent Bahrain in the funeral of late Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, who was killed last Wednesday in an aircraft accident. The funeral of President Ziaul Haq is to take place tomorrow, Saturday.

Foreign Minister Interviewed on Cease-Fire
LD2008204688 Kuwait KUNA in English 1811 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Beirut, Aug 20 (KUNA)—Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah on Saturday described the implementation of the ceasefire in the Iraqi-Iranian war today as the most important event on the international and regional level.

In an interview with weekly magazine "AL OSBOU AL-'ARABI" [spelling as received] to be published soon, Shaykh Muhammad said the halt of the Gulf war is an Arab and international turning point.

"Peaceful co-existence between Iran and Iraq and each of the Gulf countries will carry positive impact on the future of the region and represent a positive development that we have been working for".

He pointed out that Manama is looking forward to cooperation with Baghdad and Tehran. On whether Bahrain has indirectly benefited from the decline of Beirut's financial role, the Bahraini minister said that his country's economic and banking situation progressed and expanded when Beirut was in its heyday of prosperity. He added that the Gulf countries need Bahrain just like they need other world financial centers.

Regarding the upcoming GCC summit scheduled to be held in Bahrain, Shaykh Muhammad said that his country is placing high hopes on this gathering.

Answering a question on his country's ties with the Soviet Union after several Gulf states established diplomatic relations with Moscow, the chief diplomat said they are normal at the economic and political levels, adding that "contacts between the two countries are continuing through direct and indirect channels and the opening of embassies is only a matter of time".

Whether Bahrain has been playing a role in the peace efforts designed to resolve the Iranian-Iraqi dispute, he said that his country since the first moment of the war tried to halt it through direct consultations with both belligerents. "The latest Iranian move of accepting a truce in its war with Iraq is not for tactical reasons and we welcome this trend" he emphasized, adding that Bahrain is optimistic that the two countries are serious in advocating peace, the minister went on.

On the recent Jordanian move of severing its legal and administrative links with the West Bank in addition to the fighting in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, he said "the Jordanian move came after long years of dialogue and the time has to pass before we judge its results".

He concluded that his country has regretted and condemned what is taking place in the Palestinian refugee camps, saying that these clashes are not the first of its kind.

Information Minister Reviews Relief Aid to Sudan
JN2108162088 Manama WAKH in English 1615 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Manama, Aug 21 (GNA)—Bahrain welcomed the application of the UN-sponsored ceasefire between Iraq and Iran which went into effect yesterday.

While chairing the cabinet weekly session today, Crown Prince and Acting Prime Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah extended Bahrain's congratulations to the peoples of Iraq and Iran and hoped that this step would be a start for a comprehensive peace in the region.

Information Minister and Acting Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Tariq 'Abd al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad stated that the cabinet reviewed medical, food and financial requirements for the victims of the floods in Sudan in implementation of H.H. [His Highness] the Amir of Bahrain Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah's instructions to provide relief aid to the Sudanese brothers. He said that the cabinet decided to send the aid as soon as possible to the concerned authorities in Sudan.

Al-Mu'ayyad said the cabinet discussed a memo from the Information Ministry pertaining to founding a press establishment for printing and publication in order to issue a new Arabic language daily. He pointed out that the cabinet expressed satisfaction for this project and assigned the Information Ministry to facilitate the official procedures to set up the establishment as soon as possible.

Kuwait

Iraq's Hammadi Arrives, Addresses Arab Issues
LD2108183688 Kuwait KUNA in English 1637 GMT 21 Aug 88

[By Saleh Kazzal]

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 21 (KUNA)—Iraqi Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'dun Hammadi said here Sunday that his country would do its best to bring about peace with Iran but warned that Baghdad would not give in to any pressure.

Talking to KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY upon his arrival here tonight, Hammadi said the forthcoming negotiations between the two countries under U.N. supervision must achieve durable, honourable and comprehensive peace not only between Iran and Iraq but also between Iran and the Arab countries in the long run.

Hammadi arrived here from Baghdad on his way to Beijing as part of a delegation of the seven-man Arab League follow up committee formed to look into developments of the eight-year-old Gulf war.

He and Kuwait's deputy premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad will explain to the Chinese leaders the Arab viewpoint on the Gulf conflict.

He and two Arab officials visited Moscow early this month while other committee teams were visiting. He said we have always called for peace and made big sacrifices for the sake of peace but we shall never accept any pressure.

Hammadi was welcomed on arrival by the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashid al-Rashid and Foreign Undersecretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin.

Departs for Beijing

LD2108222588 Kuwait KUNA in English 2002 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 21 (KUNA)—Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir and Iraqi Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sa'dun Hammadi left here Sunday for Beijing, as representatives of Arab seven-man committee, entrusted with following up developments of the Iraq-Iran war.

Shaykh Sabah and Hammadi will discuss with Chinese officials the upcoming phase, in light of the ceasefire, which became official as of yesterday morning, between Iraq and Iran.

Qatar

Amir Sends Cables to Iraqi, Iranian Presidents

JN2008094488 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0905 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Doha, 20 Aug (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, has sent two congratulatory cables to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Iranian President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i on the implementation of the cease-fire between the two Muslim neighbors Iraq and Iran as of today. In the two cables, his highness the amir of Qatar expressed his heartfelt congratulations and that of the Qatari people and government on this blessed step that received all satisfaction and support from the international community. His highness expressed Qatar's hope that this important accomplishment and the direct negotiations between the two countries will pave the way to a just and lasting peaceful settlement that will guarantee their legitimate rights and national interests and reinforce security and stability in the Gulf in the service of the higher interests of their peoples, as well as the rest of the Islamic nation.

Saudi Arabia

Royal Court Reaffirms Cooperation With Pakistan

LD2008195688 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The Royal Court has issued the following statement:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with its feelings of sorrow and pain at the death of one of the sincere leaders of the Islamic nation, the great holy warrior, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, wishes to reaffirm its permanent stand alongside the fraternal government and the people of Pakistan. It reaffirms its support for His Excellency President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and will provide all that is needed to continue the Islamic and political march as outlined by the late leader.

It also affirms the continuation of mutual cooperation with the government of Pakistan in various economic, trade, development, and technical fields, while remaining faithful to developing closer fraternal ties and strengthening the existing links between the fraternal countries.

While stating its unchanging position toward Pakistan and its belief in the ability of the government and people of Pakistan to surmount their difficulties and overcome barriers through solidarity, cooperation, wisdom, and unity, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is filled with hope that the people of Pakistan will realize the security, welfare, prosperity, and stability to which they aspire.

United Arab Emirates

Delegation Leaves To Attend Ziaul Haq's Funeral

JN2008093088 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0725 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Aug (WAKH)—Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, head of the Presidential Office, left Abu Dhabi this morning leading his country's official delegation to the funeral of late Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and to offer condolences of the UAE president, government, and people to the Pakistani Government and people on this painful occasion. The delegation comprises Shaykh Ahmad ibn Hamad, information and culture minister; Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Major General Muhammad Sa'id al-Badi, chief of staff.

Reportage on UN Team, Cease-Fire Implementation

Military Spokesman on Cease-Fire

JN1908155588 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1403 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Statement by an Armed Forces General Command spokesman on 19 August; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O great Iraqi people. O sons of our glorious Arab nation. O brave men of our valiant Armed Forces. Another day of your days and another manifestation of your capability is being achieved. This day will start tomorrow morning, Saturday, 20 August 1988—8 Muharram 1409 Hegira. On this day, at 0700 [0400 GMT] of its beautiful morning, the time of the full and comprehensive cease-fire—in land, sea, and air—between Iraq and Iran will come. Our Armed Forces will observe it with responsibility and awareness. On that day, the first substantial step on the path of peace will begin. Doors will be opened for whoever wants to walk on that path of peace with confident and correct steps. This will place the relations between Iraq and Iran in a new framework, different from the framework of slogans of expansion, aggression, hatred, and evil. With these slogans, the Iranian regime kept the war going, from 4 September 1980, a war which lasted 8 years.

You, the heroic Iraqi and honest Arabs, know that this substantial step, which has opened up possibilities of a lasting and comprehensive peace, would never have been achieved if it were not for the Iraqis' heroism that defeated all evil calculations and expectations. This step would also be impossible were it not for their great efficiency in the fields of practical and intellectual life, in its political, economic, social, and cultural fields, and in the fields of military efficiency and capability, which summarized the Iraqis' capability in all the aforementioned areas. These fields also constituted the title and the facade of the battle.

While we recall all this, we must deal and interact with any new reality that may come from Iran on the condition that this reality is contradictory to the behaviors of treachery, intrigues, plots, and aggression. It must also contradict the slogans of expansion and interference in the domestic affairs with which Iran sparked the war. Yet the bitter experience and our sons' sea of blood that was caused by Iran's aggression, makes us stand up to our responsibility, in accordance with our people's awareness, and not deal on the basis of hopes but on the basis of reality, so that we cannot be deceived or deprived of our great victory by anyone.

O great Arabs and Iraqis. Our happiness which is part of your happiness is so great for this day of yours which will begin at 0700 tomorrow. It is the right of Iraqis, both inside and outside Iraq, and the right of Arabs, inside and outside the great Arab homeland, to express happiness and celebrate their victory that was achieved by their heroic sons in Iraq. Just as we did on the night of 8-9 August, and on the following days, all must celebrate and express their happiness in their own way, except by firing in the air so that your victory's wedding dress, and the opening of peace, is not stained by pure blood as a result of mistakes, which usually occur with blind bullets.

Brother Arabs wherever you may be, glorious Iraqis: While celebrating the days of victory whose trees were watered by the pure blood of the Iraqis, we know and need not remind you that the war has not yet officially ended between us and Iran, and that the cease-fire could lead to full and comprehensive peace, which is our objective, or those who do not keep their pledges might go back on them and end their efforts to achieve peace. All this necessitates that caution, alertness, and vigilance be maintained. However, we are only too aware of the Iraqi people's nature. We know that these people are descended from civilizations that have taught humanity how to handle life and man and therefore cannot fail to properly discharge responsibilities. Furthermore, we know that caution and preparation for all events must go hand in hand with jubilation and joy. Moreover, it is not inconsistent for the Iraqis to rejoice, celebrate, and build, and to still be prepared to defend joy, happiness, and building with their capable weapons when the need arises. Indeed, we know that those who approach life with joy and happiness and celebrate victory and peace are better equipped than others to confront anyone who seeks to spoil happiness, disrupt life, bury joy, and sabotage peace. Those who dig graves and deepen the pits of death are weak compared with those who love life and hold genuine principles, because sponsors of death cannot possibly make life. In contrast, the Iraqis create life in all its forward-looking, civilized aspects. Accordingly, they are life's honest protectors and capable defenders who watch out for whoever seeks to harm it.

Glorious Iraqis: From the outset, your enemy has wagered on the road of evil and clothed its slogans in charlatanism and sorcery. It has harbored the illusion that it can triumph over you by brainwashing the executors of its aggressive slogans, having blindfolded them and led them astray. In the meantime, we took the path of virtue and honorable principles, clothing our slogans in truth and truthfulness. We have consistently seen to it that our people remain open-minded and receptive to facts of life and the requirements of battle. We have been frank even with our enemies and never failed to offer any advice that we thought could have led them back to the right path, away from the abyss and blood into which they plunged their people. Despite the long drawn-out fighting, neither our people nor Armed Forces were surprised to see the Iranians identify the right course and acknowledge our legitimate goals.

While evil and superstition and charlatanism were retreating, the pursuit of truth and the advocation of honorable principles was maintaining a strong contact with its objectives. With the passage of time, the latter course has steadily achieved its objectives. This is the key to the basic guarantee of both the present and the future, inasmuch as it was the basic protector in the past, bolstered by the care of the Almighty God who is the higher support for those vindicating right, virtue, and principles.

While our great people are celebrating the days of victory and peace, calls for the so-called mobilization are being increasingly heard in Iran in the hope that the Iranian people will be deluded into believing that the course based on the pursuit of intrigue and charlatanism can still help them attain some of their evil and lowly objectives by showing and wielding force.

On this occasion, we believe that it is our duty to advise the Iranian rulers and to tell them in the same clarity we used with them before that if they want to benefit from the lessons of the past, particularly as they are numerous and deep, then they must not forget the events that ignited the war and prolonged it for 8 years. They should also realize the situation and refrain from harboring delusions, as Iraq does not accept the clatter of weapons on its borders. Furthermore, Iraq will not soften its position in the face of threats and shows of force. Iraq remembers and will not forget its geographic determinants and considerations. Neither will it forget the military behavior dictated by these determinants and considerations. He who seeks to deal with Iraq with the aim of attaining peace must abandon the methods used and objectives sought by those who clamor about the injustice caused and the pursuit of justice. Likewise, he must also relinquish the illegal ways and results of such a course. He must also give up the methods based on threats, intimidation, and the clatter of weapons on the borders. He must also pursue the course of peace and dialogue so that the Iranian people can live in peace and the Iraqi people can enjoy the fruits of peace. This must also reflect positively on the region's peoples, foremost among whom are our brothers and cousins in the Arabian Gulf. Only in this way will each of us preserve his legitimate rights as well as his sovereignty on his land and resources.

Great Iraq, just like the sons of our Arab nation, is happy that the first step on the road to peace will be taken on 20 August 1988 and that a chance for direct dialogue between those representing Iraq and those representing Iran will take place in Geneva on 25 August to discuss and agree on the other peace steps and also on the paragraphs of the UN Security Council resolution in order to achieve a complete and comprehensive peace agreement, God willing.

Our happiness is not shrouded by the failure to realize that the self-serving peace we seek might not be easily accessible. We also realize that this peace might go through turning points. Difficulties might be encountered on the road to this peace. The most serious difficulty is to see those inclined to pursue illusions harbor delusions once again and also to see the meddlers continue to meddle. However, our faith in the present and the future is unlimited and our optimism over their capabilities are also limitless. Also, our faith in peace is boundless.

Let us pray to God day and night and thank Him for the gift of victory and also for the beginning of peace. Let us also beseech God to grant His mercy to our righteous martyrs while celebrating our bright feasts. God is great and let the lowly be accursed.

UN Commander, Observers Arrive

JN1908180088 Baghdad INA in English 1720 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, Aug 19, INA—General Slavko Jovic, commander of the UN Iraq-Iran Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) this evening arrived in Baghdad.

General Jovic was in Iraq last Wednesday and Thursday then left to Iran yesterday. Assistant of General Jovic, Brig. Babil [name as received] from India also arrived in Baghdad this afternoon.

A responsible source from UNIIMOG told INA that Brig. Babil would stay in Iraq and be responsible for the UNIIMOG contingent in Iraq while the second Irish Brig. Assistant would be responsible of the observers force in Iran.

Meanwhile, a new batch of UN military observers comprising 58 observers from various nationalities arrived in Baghdad today to join the UN forces entrusted with monitoring ceasefire between Iraq and Iran in implementation of Security Council Resolution No 598.

Two aircraft arrived in Baghdad today carrying technical and mobile equipment to be used by the UNIIMOG forces.

On another level, the last batch of the UN military observers arrived in the southern Iraqi port city of Basra to monitor implementation of ceasefire to be effected at 3:00 GMT tomorrow morning. The contingent comprises 67 military observers from various nationalities together with their equipment and vehicles needed for their task.

Major John Faxen from Canada expressed happiness over being in Basra and appreciation for the warm welcome accorded to the UN force which he said reflects the Iraqi desire for peace.

INA Statement Announces Cease-Fire

JN2008061888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0445 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—Guns on the warfront with Iran have stopped, and Iraq has implemented the cease-fire on land, at sea, and in the air at 0700 local time, 0300 GMT, on 20 August 1988—8 Muharram 1409 Hegira.

Baghdad and the other Iraqi cities have spent a night of enthusiastic demonstrations, gatherings, and celebrations over the Iraqi victory resulting from the cease-fire. This is considered a major step to be followed by negotiations between the two sides to end the 8-year war between Iraq and Iran—unique in contemporary history.

UN observers from 12 countries began their mission on the 1,200-km border to monitor the cease-fire and the commitment to its implementation.

Military operations have ceased between the two sides along the frontline. Iraqi border cities and hamlets lived moments they have not experienced since Iran began to bombard Iraqi border cities and posts in March 1979—the date of the first official Iraqi memorandum complaining against the violations of the new Iranian rule which came after the fall of Iran's shah.

Baghdad radio described the moments in which the cease-fire was implemented as historic moments.

Yesterday, an Iraqi military spokesman announced that the Iraqi Armed Forces will observe the cease-fire with responsibility and awareness. The spokesman added that Iraq does not accept saber-rattling on its border. [passage omitted]

After implementation of the cease-fire this morning, the Basra civilian airport was reopened. The airport was closed in the wake of the violent Iranian artillery shelling of the city and Iraqi installations on 4 September 1980.

UN observers took positions in Kirkuk, 250 km to the north of Baghdad; Ba'qubah, 70 km to the northeast of Baghdad; and Basra in southern Iraq. The observers were also deployed along the front line.

The Iraqis believe that the cease-fire in the Iraq-Iran war is an important step toward ending the war on negotiable bases. [passage omitted]

Official UN HQ Established

JN2008063488 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0610 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Basra, 20 Aug (INA)—An INA correspondent in the city of Basra has said that the UN flag was raised today on the Shatt al-'Arab Hotel in the city, declaring it the official headquarters of the UN forces in the south. The UN observers have been deployed along the front line in the Shatt al-'Arab and in the north. The UN observers' main headquarters are in Kirkuk, 250 km to the north of Baghdad, to monitor the northern front; in Ba'qubah, 70 km to the northeast of Baghdad, to monitor the central front; and in Basra, southern Iraq, to monitor the southern front.

Observer on 'Tranquillity'

JN2008070888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0645 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Basra, 20 Aug (INA)—At 0700 today, 67 UN observers began their mission to implement the cease-fire in the southern sector of the area of operations. In a statement to INA, Canadian Colonel Evans, the officer in charge of this sector, said the cease-fire has been really observed at the fixed time. He expressed happiness with the complete tranquillity, calm, and stability in the sector. He added that this is a sign of peace in the sector.

Col Evans expressed his appreciation to the Iraqi Government for the facilities provided to his team. He said that these are excellent facilities that embody Iraq's earnest desire for peace.

First Oil Tanker Sails Across Gulf

JN2008073688 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0705 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—The first Iraqi oil tanker sailed across the Arabian Gulf this morning, a few hours after the implementation of the cease-fire, in the first voyage in 8 years. This was announced by Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim in a statement to INA. The Iraqi minister added that the oil tanker " 'Ayn Zalah" sailed with the beloved Iraqi flag fluttering on its mast, carrying the first shipment of Iraqi crude oil across the Arabian Gulf after an 8-year stoppage because of the aggressive war launched by the Iranian regime against Iraq on 4 September 1980.

'Abd al-Rahim added that the shipment was loaded at one of the new export outlets that were prepared to export Iraqi crude oil until the exporting returns to Al-Bakr and Khawr al-'Umayyah ports.

Oil Minister Makes Statement

JN2008081888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—In his statement to INA, the Iraqi oil minister said: Many people have imagined that Iraq would not be able to export its oil across the Arabian Gulf directly [after the cease-fire]. They thought that it would take Iraq months or years to export its oil. Great Iraq has surprised those people by loading its first oil tanker and by its departure a few hours after the implementation of the cease-fire at 0700 today.

The Iraqi minister added: In implementation of President Saddam Husayn's instructions, the Oil Ministry organs, in cooperation with the Transport and Communications Ministry, have accomplished the requirements of the immediate export from one of the new outlets and have prepared the outlet for operation at the appropriate time. The Iraqi oil tanker "'Ayn Zalah" was introduced to the Iraqi territorial waters to load the Iraqi crude oil despite the siege imposed by the Iranian regime to prevent the arrival of the tanker in our territorial waters.

'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim affirmed that once again great, victorious Iraq has proven through this step its capability in the fields of construction and development as it proved in its big military victories under the banner of President Saddam Husayn. He added that Iraq will continue to devote all its potentials to build and defend great Iraq.

'Abd al-Rahim said: At a time when Iraq announces to the world the return of our oil exports across the Arabian Gulf with capacities that will increase gradually, Iraq will continue to monitor the developments in the market, lay down its plans, and define its priorities in using its export outlets to enhance the financial revenues of our oil exports.

Concluding his statement to INA, the Iraqi oil minister pledged to continue work to attain better achievements in the service of Iraq.

Iran To Continue To Search Ships

JN2008115288 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1126 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The commander of the Naval Force has stated the following: News agencies yesterday disseminated a statement by the commander of the Iranian Navy in which he said the Iranian Navy will search ships even after the implementation of the cease-fire.

The implementation of this announcement, considered a military action, constitutes a serious violation of the provisions and contents of the cease-fire that began to go into effect today in accordance with Security Council Resolution No 598 and the agreement reached with the UN secretary general stipulating a cease-fire and the halt of all ground, sea, and air military operations.

We hope the Iranian announcement was merely a slip of the tongue by the Iranian official. However, if Iranian authorities implement it and intercept Iraqi ships or those sailing toward Iraq in any way, Iraq will not yield to this measure and will resist it strongly. The Naval Force commander stressed that Iraq will exercise its full right to navigation in international waters, the Arabian Gulf, and the Strait of Hormuz now that the cease-fire has gone into effect this morning.

Tariq 'Aziz Sees UN Commander

JN2008145788 Baghdad INA in English 1415 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, Aug 20, INA—Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz met here today at his office with commander of the UN observers forces Mr. Slavko Jovic and a number of his aides.

During the meeting, the minister referred to the statements of the Iranian naval force commander that Iran will inspect the ships even after the implementation of ceasefire.

Mr. 'Aziz expressed Iraq's hope that what had been announced by the Iranian official would not express an official attitude of the Iranian authorities. Mr. 'Aziz stressed that the Iranian announcement represents a dangerous violation for the rules and the content of the ceasefire that was implemented today.

The Iraqi foreign minister stressed that if the Iranian authorities carried out this measure and intercept by any means the Iraqi ships or those heading for Iraq, Iraq will not submit to this measure and will strongly resist it.

The Iraqi minister asked the commander of the UN observer forces to take instant measures to inform the Iranian authorities on their commitments according to the rules of ceasefire under the UN Security Council Resolution 598. Mr. 'Aziz also asked the commander of the emergency forces to inform the U.N secretary-general about this attitude.

The commander of the observers forces expressed his thanks and appreciation for the cooperation of the Iraqi authorities with the U.N forces to enable them to fully carry out the mission assigned to them.

Iranian Helicopter Follows Ship

JN2008145888 Baghdad INA in English 1430 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, Aug 20, INA—An Iranian helicopter gunship hovered over the Iraqi commercial ship Khawlah while it was sailing this morning into the Strait of Hormuz following effecting the ceasefire and in practice of Iraq's natural right to free-nevigation in the Strait and the international waters.

An Iranian war vessel sailed beside the Iraqi ship while it was sailing in the Strait and then in the international waters towards Iraqi ports. The Iranian war vessel was still sailing beside the Iraqi ship while Iranian helicopterships continued hovering over it in the international waters in the Arab Gulf in an open attempt to provoke the ship.

Iraq informed commander of the U.N. Iraq-Iran Military Observers Group that this Iranian behaviour completely contradicts with the ceasefire agreement and the foreign minister sent a message to the U.N. secretary-general in this respect. The Iraqi ship is carrying on its voyage in practice of its legal right and in disregard of such provocations.

INA learnt that concerned officials are following up the ship trip and are in constant contact with its captain. The president's secretary conveyed wishes and greetings of President Saddam Husayn to the ship captain and crew.

UN Technicians, Equipment Arrive

JN2008165388 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—A new group of UN technicians arrived here today on a special plane to join the UN forces entrusted with supervising the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran. A number of technical equipment and cars that will be used to facilitate the mission of the UN observers also arrived on the same plane.

UN Commander Speaks to Media

JN2008171788 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—General Slavko Jovic, commander of the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observers Group, held a news conference at the headquarters of the Economic Committee for West Asia in Baghdad today.

At the news conference, which was attended by correspondents of foreign and Iraqi news agencies, newspapers, and televisions, Jovic spoke about the measures adopted by the UN force to carry out its task entrusted to it by the United Nations, namely supervising the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran. He also announced the deployment of UN observers in their defined positions along the border between Iraq and Iran.

UN Force in Al-Sulaymaniyah

JN2008185088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Al-Sulaymaniyah, 20 Aug (INA)—Units of the UN military observers force have completed taking up their positions along the international borders between Iraq and Iran in Al-Sulaymaniyah sector to supervise the cease-fire between the two countries effected at 0700 [0300 GMT] today.

The UN observers team, which consists of 16 observers of various ranks and nationalities, arrived in Al-Sulaymaniyah yesterday. An INA correspondent said that all the requirements of the UN team were prepared in Al-Sulaymaniyah sector prior to the implementation of the cease-fire.

Iranian Forces Commit 'Violation'

JN2008183388 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1811 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—The Iranian regime's forces committed a new cease-fire violation today.

INA has learned that soldier Khalil Ibrahim Latif was martyred in the Sayf Sa'd area at 1015 [0615 GMT] today after he was shot by an Iranian soldier who infiltrated in front of the defensive Iraqi positions. The aggressor Iranian soldier used a sniper gun in this crime which led to the immediate martyrdom of the Iraqi soldier.

The UN observers staff in the sector was informed and one of its representatives arrived in the position where the violation took place. Our units did not reply to the new Iranian violation of the cease-fire.

'Khawlah' Ship Enters Hormuz Strait

JN2008193588 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received a cable from Muhammad 'Ali 'Abd al-Hamid, captain of the Iraqi ship "Khawlah".

In a cable on the occasion of entering the Strait of Hormuz by the first Iraqi ship after 8 years of war, Captain Muhammad 'Ali 'Abd al-Hamid said: We, the crew of the ship "Khawlah," send our heartfelt greetings and wishes of a long life to you. We are ready to sacrifice ourselves at anytime for the sake of Iraq's glory.

Commander Denies 'Khawlah' Searched

JN2108103788 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0928 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 21 (INA)—The commander of the Iraqi naval force has denied that the Iranians managed to inspect the Iraqi ship "Khawlah."

In a statement to INA this afternoon, the Iraqi commander said that the captain of the "Khawlah" implemented instructions fully and did not allow the Iranians to intercept the ship, come aboard, or search it regardless of the consequences. He explained that the ship continued sailing without paying attention to the irresponsible behavior of the Iranian Navy.

The naval force commander stressed that Iraq reaffirms its right to free navigation in international waters after the cease-fire went into effect and holds Iran responsible for any behavior or act which is contrary to this.

He said that Iraq will act toward such practices in accordance with its legitimate rights as stipulated by the international law.

Following is the text of the Naval Force commander's statement:

Commenting on the statement made by the Iranian Navy commander broadcast by Tehran radio in Persian at 2030 last night, 20 August 1988, saying that the preliminary inspection of the Iraqi ship "Khawlah" was carried out as usual and in accordance with instructions and methods followed throughout recent years, the commander of the Iraqi Navythis morning stated:

As they are accustomed to telling lies, the Iranians did not inspect the Iraqi ship "Khawlah," but sent helicopter gunships which hovered over it and a war vessel to accompany it. The instructions given to the captain of the Iraqi ship stipulated not to allow the Iranians to intercept, embark, or inspect the ship, regardless of the consequences.

The captain of the Iraqi ship implemented the instructions fully. He did not respond to the Iranian calls. The "Khawlah" was not inspected and continued sailing, paying no attention to the irresponsible behavior of the Iranian Navy. While clarifying these facts, Iraq at the same time affirms its right to free navigation in international waters after the cease-fire went into effect. Iraq holds Iran fully responsible for any behavior or act contrary to the cease-fire. Therefore, Iraq will act toward such practices in accordance with its legitimate rights as stipulated by the international law.

New UN Observers Group Arrives

JN2108153888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Aug (INA)—This afternoon, 27 technicians arrived here to join the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group charged with monitoring the cease-fire along the Iraq-Iran border, which went into force yesterday morning. A total of 127 observers has thus far arrived in Baghdad.

Foreign Minister Writes UN Chief

JN2108163388 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] United Nations, 21 Aug (INA)—Iraq has called on the United Nations to promptly drive home to the Iranian authorities their commitments and the need to refrain from any actions that violate the cease-fire.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in a letter sent to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and distributed at the United Nations, urged that Iran be made to understand it must refrain from obstructing Iraqi vessels or any other ships bound for Iraq, as they are exercising their full rights to navigate international waters and the Strait of Hormuz now that the cease-fire is in force. The text of Tariq 'Aziz's letter to the UN chief follows:

Your Excellency Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, New York. Your Excellency: I want to call your attention to a statement by Commodore Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan, commander of the Iranian Navy, carried by REUTER and datelined Nicosia on 19 August 1988, that Iran will inspect vessels even after the cease-fire is in effect.

Implementing this Iranian announcement in any form amounts to a military action constituting a gross cease-fire violation, as provided by UN Security Council Resolution No 598, which requires a cease-fire and cessation of hostilities on land, at sea, and in the air. We hope the statement does not express an official Iranian position.

We hope Your Excellency will drive home to the Iranian authorities their commitments as outlined in the cease-fire and the need to refrain from engaging in any action that could breach the cease-fire and to desist from obstructing Iraqi vessels or ships bound for Iraq, as they are exercising their full rights to navigate international waters and the Strait of Hormuz now that the cease-fire is in force.

On this occasion, we would like to stress that Iraq will not give in to such behavior on the part of the Iranian authorities and will resist it with the means it deems fit. Please accept my best regards.

Tariq 'Aziz, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Iraq, 20 August 1988

Shamir: Shultz Reassessing Need for Conference

TA2108104688 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Aug 88 p 8

[Report by Menahem Shalev and Mikhal Yudelman]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has "begun to doubt the necessity for, and possibility of, an international conference," Prime Minister Shamir asserted on Friday.

Shamir also said that even if the uprising in the territories goes on for nine years, it will not result in a Palestinian state.

Sources here said that Shultz recently told American Jewish leaders that his reassessment of the conference idea is a direct result of King Husayn's latest moves. Now, Shultz reportedly said, direct negotiations appear to be the only avenue to progress.

Shultz is understood to have made comments in the same vein last week to Ambassador Moshe Arad, who returned to Israel at the end of the week.

Shamir also said on Friday he would agree to an international conference to solve the plight of the refugees in the Gaza Strip, but not to change the present borders.

He was speaking to some 80 Likud activists, who will serve as guides in bus tours to the West Bank which will be part of Likud's election campaign. Shamir did not brief the activists on how to act if the tours are attacked by rioters or stone-throwers, but it is assumed that the buses will be safeguarded by the army, sources close to the prime minister told THE JERUSALEM POST yesterday.

The tours, Shamir said, would make the public realize the necessity of renewing the momentum of establishing settlements, which is what the Likud would do if it forms the next government.

"There is no place for territorial compromise, there will be no border changes and no new lines on the map," Shamir told the activists.

Referring to the "disquiet in the territories, Shamir said: "It has been going on for nine months, and I would like to see it over in another nine days, but even if it goes on for nine years it will not result in a Palestinian state. Those who are responsible for the disquiet will realize that it is not getting them any closer to their goal, if the people of Israel maintain their resilience, devotion and calm."

Shamir said that a Likud victory would eliminate the danger of an international conference and, consequently, the danger of withdrawal to the borders existing before the Six Day War. However, he said that Likud would do nothing in the West Bank which could be interpreted as violating Israel's international commitments.

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 21 August on page three adds that commenting on the remarks made over the weekend by a senior Jordanian official to the effect that the idea of a confederation between Jordan and the West Bank has been dropped, Shamir said that "it is slowly becoming clear that everything proposed by the Labor Party either no longer exists or is being dropped. Therefore, the choice is between the Likud's plan to revive Judaea and Samaria and the Alignment proposal which means total withdrawal."

"The prime minister categorically rejected calls from Labor Party quarters to initially give up Gaza, and said that by the same token Alignment leaders should ask what Israel needs Wadi 'Ara for."]

Leaders Plots To Assassinate 'Arafat Reported

JN2108094588 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 18-19 Aug 88 pp 1, 22

["Exclusive report"]

[Text] Sources whose information is taken from senior Arab and international diplomatic channels have asserted that the inner Israeli leadership comprising of Shamir, Peres, Sharon, Rabin, and Levi discussed, during an important meeting about a week ago, issues which directly affect the future of the Israeli entity. This entity is being pushed, by international detente and the Arab changes, by the new emergency situation concerning the Palestinian state and solution to the Palestinian problem. These sources said that these Israeli leaders, after long hours of heated discussions, reached a number of decisions of a dangerous nature. The most dangerous of these was the special decision to give consideration to a suggestion made by Sharon and supported by Shamir and Rabin. This suggestion consists of attempting to annihilate the scenario, which deals specifically with declaring and establishing the Palestinian state, and of which the last international and Arab touches are being put. Sharon in his suggestion, defined the methods with which this scenario could be annihilated. Israel could practice a form of political circumvention, which would displace and wreck the essence and contents of this scenario and turn it into a mere media issue which the Arab and international newspapers and news media discuss on their front pages.

In his suggestion, Sharon recalled, the methods used in 1982 to develop the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, which received indirect backing from Begin, the current prime minister, and which was contrary to what had been agreed upon internationally at that time. The agreement was that the invasion forces will reach a point no further than 45 km from the Israeli border. They would then stop to start the Israeli-Palestinian disengagement which would lead to Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Sharon affirmed in his suggestion that the steps which he practiced was practically a military and political circumvention which annihilated the international equation prepared to solve the Palestine question.

Based on this conclusion, which disrupted the Palestinian solution for 6 years, the members of the Israeli cabinet decided to give Sharon's proposal a chance and a the Palestinian solution was once again disrupted by using a new political circumvention.

The same sources also say that Sharon's new political circumvention tactic consists of executing a plan to assassinate PLO Chief Yasir 'Arafat. This stems from the Israeli leadership's belief that Yasir 'Arafat is where the lines of the Palestinian political decision converge. In addition to his being the contemporary national Palestinian symbol, he controls the details of the administrative and financial decisions of most PLO institutions, of which will most likely become the institutions of the future Palestinian state.

The same media sources also expressed their opinion on the result of such a step from the Israeli point of view. The least it could do would be to create an atmosphere of chaos and confusion in international, Arab, and Palestinian political activity which surrounds the preparations for establishing the Palestinian state. Perhaps it would annihilate this scenario completely and reshuffle the cards that deal with it.

Previously, it was said that Israeli intelligence angled Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] very easily, exploiting the relaxed Palestinian security situation which accompanied the media halo surrounding the Palestinian uprising. Now, Israel is plotting to angle 'Arafat, thus exploiting the imposed relaxed Palestinian security situation after the media halo surrounding the possibilities of declaring the establishment of a Palestinian state.

IDF Kills 3 'Terrorists' in Security Zone

TA2008081888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] An IDF force last night killed three terrorists in the security zone in southern Lebanon. The force sustained no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the IDF force detected the terrorists while they were making their way to the Israeli border. The force opened fire, killing them instantly. As said, the force sustained no casualties. Sabotage materials, hand grenades, and personal arms were found on the bodies of the terrorists. Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe was told that the encounter took place south of Marun al-Ra's, about 2 km northeast of Moshav Avivim. A senior officer told our correspondent that the terrorists apparently intended to carry out a terrorist attack in Israel. The officer emphasized that the terrorists have lately tried to carry out demonstrative terrorist acts in southern Lebanon, but the IDF and South Lebanese Army forces foil these attempts.

Lubrani Interviewed on Lebanese Elections

TA2008091988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0705 GMT 20 Aug 88

["Weekly Newsreel" interview with Uri Lubrani, the coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, by Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a, on 19 August; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Barne'a] Mr Lubrani, 2 days before the Lebanese Parliament was slated to convene in order to elect a new president in Lebanon you said that the election would not take place and that, as indeed happened, the parliament would not have the necessary quorum. Did you base that statement on knowledge or on an assessment?

[Lubrani] First, if I am not mistaken, I said I estimated that the election would not be held. This then is the answer to your question: It was an assessment. There is nothing certain in Lebanon. Even if I had known for sure that the elections would not take place, I would not have committed myself to say so, as anything can happen there. Even a few minutes before the decisive time there, the outcome was still unclear.

[Barne'a] Were you kept in suspense over this?

[Lubrani] No, I was not holding my breath. We naturally want to know what is taking place in Lebanon. We are following the developments there, and it is important for us to see that these developments aid a certain process. I will say, however, that I am kept in suspense very much.

[Barne'a] Mr Lubrani, do you view the fact that the Christians of east Beirut, led by the Lebanese Forces of Samir Ja'ja', actually managed to prevent the election of Sulayman Franjiyah, as a defeat for Syria in the Lebanese arena and perhaps even a victory for Israel?

[Lubrani] I do not think we have either a victory or a defeat here. I think that the attempted achievement in the election which was not held is an exception from the point of view of the Lebanese rules of the game. Compromises are necessary in Lebanon. I think that only a compromise president has a chance of being acceptable to all communities in Lebanon, and so only a compromise president could be elected. He has to be acceptable to all elements with power in Lebanon, including Syria. Therefore, I do not think we are talking of a defeat or a victory here. The attempt that was made this past week simply deviated from the rules of the game.

[Barne'a] Still, Sulayman Franjiyah is the candidate whom the Syrians pushed forward. The Syrians have about 25,000 soldiers in Lebanon, about 10,000 of whom are inside Beirut, and the Christians still managed to prevent many Christian delegates from arriving at the parliament, blocking the necessary legal quorum, again in spite of Damascus?

[Lubrani] This is a sure indication that the Christians can at least decide who will not be elected president in Lebanon. It was not the Syrian desire that decided matters here, but rather the determination of the Christian camp to prevent the election of a person who will not be a good president for Lebanon, in their opinion.

[Barne'a] Is it true that Israel was approached by Christians in Lebanon to intervene in the presidential election and that we answered in the negative?

[Lubrani] Oh, we had a great number of appeals from a great number of elements. Nevertheless, we were very strict on this matter. We did not intervene. We expressed our opinion, but did nothing beyond this.

[Barne'a] Which elements, for instance, approached Israel?

[Lubrani] We were approached by various elements, Christian and non-Christian alike.

[Barne'a] What did they want us to do? What does Israeli intervention mean?

[Lubrani] They wanted us to prevent the election of some candidates and aid in the election of others.

[Barne'a] And we simply stated that we would not intervene.

[Lubrani] We simply decided that we do not want to intervene in the elections, that we merely express our opinion on points on which we think it would be good for our opinion to be heard.

[Barne'a] I would like to understand this. How do the Lebanese expect us to aid them? After all, we are no longer in Beirut and Lebanon. The most that can be done—and that through the South Lebanese Army—is to prevent parliamentarians who live in the south from reaching Beirut. What can be done otherwise, or rather, what do they expect?

[Lubrani] I think this is a very good question. I think we should recognize that since Israel is Lebanon's neighbor and has an immediate and basic interest in what is taking place on Lebanon's southern and northern borders, Israel is a player in a certain game in Lebanon. We have the security zone where about 200,000 Lebanese live. These Lebanese, who are an integral part of the Lebanese people, of the Lebanese communities, have a say in what is happening in Lebanon and also take what we think into account.

[Barne'a] Mr Lubrani, why is it so important to Israel who will occupy the presidential seat in the B'abda Palace? Why should it make such a different to us who this person, who is hardly the mayor of east Beirut, is?

[Lubrani] Let me put this simply. I think it is important to us who occupies the palace in Damascus, who leads Amman or Jordan, and who leads Egypt. This applies to the leader of Lebanon too, despite the complex problems there. Lebanon is a neighbor...

[Barne'a, interrupting] Still, the president there has no power; he does not rule anything.

[Lubrani] Yes, but he does have something that is important to the Lebanese and he should also be important to us: He embodies the Lebanese legitimacy, and as long as he embodies this legitimacy, he is surely important. His signature on any document commits Lebanon in the international arena, so that the person who heads this country is very important.

[Barne'a] Take the example of May 1983, when we signed an agreement with Lebanon, the president did not want to sign it, under Syrian pressure, so the agreement did not come into being.

[Lubrani] So there are pressures. The president faces pressures, but this does not mean he is totally unimportant. Had he signed, an agreement with Israel would have materialized. He did not sign because he was subject to pressure. We know the limitations involved, but cannot under any circumstances dismiss the importance of a president in Lebanon.

[Barne'a] What sort of ties have we maintained with the Christians in Lebanon to date, besides those in the security zone?

[Lubrani] We maintain ties with different elements in Lebanon, including the Christians. We are faithful to a rule we set for ourselves whereby we would be prepared to hold a dialogue with any Lebanese element that would want to talk with us, and this holds true for Christians and non-Christians alike.

[Barne'a] What is discussed?

[Lubrani] We discuss problems connected to common interests, very practical problems as well as long-term ones.

[Barne'a] What is your forecast for the future? Will the Syrians again try to get Franjiyah elected, or will they seek a neutral candidate who will not trigger such antagonism on the part of the Christians in Beirut?

[Lubrani] It is difficult for me to predict developments. I can only express the hope that a candidate acceptable to most of the powerful elements will ultimately be elected, and that this candidate will be able to contribute to calming Lebanon rather than to exacerbating relations among the different communities.

Military Official on Travel To Jordan, Schools

JN2108112888 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0430 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Brigadier Shaqye Erez, chief of Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria said that as of today, Sunday, every person who wants to travel to Jordan must get the necessary visas and permits from the Civil Administration offices and report to the Income Tax Departments for clearance.

In answer to a question on the start of the new scholastic year, Brigadier Shayqe said: It has been decided not to resume classes in the private and public schools, universities, and higher education institutes at the beginning of September. He added that the Civil Administration is doing all it can to reestablish academic life and guarantee its continuation in an ordered and successful way.

25 Wounded in Haifa Bomb Explosion

TA2008202388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Twenty-five people were wounded tonight when a bomb went off in Haifa. Among them is a child who was severely wounded. Two people suffered moderate wounds and the rest were slightly injured. Our correspondent Shula Schmerling reports that the bomb was placed at the entrance to a toy shop near a coffee shop. The bomb detonated when the street was crowded. Most of the wounded were taken to Rothschild Hospital, the others were taken to Rambam Hospital. The police cleared the area and sealed it off. They are now looking for evidence. Deputy Commander Ya'aqov Haviv, the district police commander, said that several Arabs have been detained for questioning. [passage omitted]

3 Janin Arabs Arrested

TA2108130888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Police Affairs Minister Hayim Bar-Lev said today that the three people suspected of carrying out the attack in Haifa last night are residents of Janin. According to him the investigation shows that they had thrown an IDF-issue hand grenade at a large crowd on the street. The investigators believe that another Arab, who is also detained, is connected with those three. At present, eight more Arabs are being held by the police. The police say they are being held for questioning, and that they are not detainees as such.

Our correspondent Shula Schmerling reports from Haifa that the detainees are cooperating with their investigators. All three were seen last night running away from the site. Eye witnesses identified them after they were caught.

Gen Mordekhay Comments on Haifa Blast, Gaza

TA2108175688 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Interview with Major General Yitzhaq Mordekhay, the commander of the Southern Command, by Yoni Ben-Menahem in the general's office, date not given—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Text] [Mordekhay] I believe that last weekend's disturbances resulted from the leaflet that called for a strike and violence on 14 August. I believe the reports on the three Gaza Strip residents—one from Rafah, the second from Khan Yunus, and another from Al-Mughazi—who were burned to death certainly fed the fire in the strip, although one must bear in mind that we still have no indications of the reasons and motives for the death of these three Gazans. I personally want to express my sorrow and revulsion over the incident. These incidents undoubtedly sparked off unrest in the Gaza Strip. Later this turned into relative quiet that was felt throughout the strip, the last few days' events having been staged largely by children on the outskirts who from time to time try to start a local skirmish. The situation, however, is under control and there is no problem as far as these things are concerned.

[Ben-Menahem] Gen Mordekhay, you imposed a curfew on the Gaza Strip for several days. Was this protracted curfew necessary?

[Mordekhay] We decided to impose it even before the outbreak of the events. The inhabitants of the territories must understand that we want them to live in peace and quiet without fear. We will not permit violence in the area while the lives of part of the population continues [word indistinct]. We will definitely initiate all sorts of operations, and, if necessary, even close the entire strip. When the need arises, we put people under administrative detention, as we have seen over the last few days. If necessary, we will deport individuals and inform others of our intention to expel them, too. We will likewise demolish the houses of people who hurl Molotov cocktails or activate explosives or hurt local businessmen. As far as violence is concerned, we have never accepted nor will we ever tolerate it. We will fight it to the bitter end.

[Ben-Menahem] Have you detained members of the popular committees in the territories this week, after the outlawing of those committees?

[Mordekhay] In pursuance of our initiated moves, for several weeks we have been waging a war against the popular committees. We have detained dozens, some of whom are potential deportees. Ten such candidates for expulsion have already been informed of such an intent. We will fight bitterly against the popular committees and the strike forces in the area. I promise you we will defeat them.

[Ben-Menahem] What about what happened at the Qezi'ot lockup facility? Perhaps you could tell us something about the development of events there?

[Mordekhay] It seems to me that some detainees and their attorneys were well aware of the fact that there was a court injunction following the High Court of Justice's ruling on the presence of detainees in that facility. On the other hand, some of those who had been sentenced for relatively longer periods of time realized that when the chance comes, it should be exploited. As soon as they found out that was the day of the change of guard and that the International Red Cross [IRC] was going to visit, provocations began in one of the wings, spreading to other wings and eventually an entire block. Thus, a group of 920 people began to riot, throw stones, tent poles, and anything else they could lay their hands on, endangering the soldiers' lives. The soldiers and the commanders used tear gas and rubber bullets. The lives of some of the soldiers who were inside the installation or inside the jail were in jeopardy, so the officers issued the appropriate orders and began to shoot in the air, later directing their fire at the rioters' feet as well. Clearly in the case of such a riot and when live ammunition is used, some people could eventually get hurt. Two people were killed, one an inhabitant of Al-Yamun in Judaea and Samaria and the other a resident of Al-Shaja'iyah in the Gaza Strip. A third person was only grazed and returned to prison.

To the best of my knowledge and judging by the investigation I have so far carried out, all the stories around the past 24 hours' events, all the fabrications of whatever nature, alleging that an officer stood and deliberately shot at certain individuals, are completely unfounded. Moreover, as in every identical or similar incident involving casualties, the military police investigate. This morning I checked with that unit and am satisfied that the reports in today's or yesterday's press by all sorts of sources are not even remotely related to the facts. The military police will nevertheless continue to investigate, and if we reach the conclusion that there is even a grain of truth in the rumors that something divergent was committed, we will take action against them. I believe that the men involved acted within the framework of the regulations and procedure, and as warranted by their duty to guard the inmates and the facility and prevent disorder. Those engaged in this type of activity to win the accolade of colleagues at home and abroad, acting as an agent provocateur precisely during an IRC visit, must think of the outcome. This, indeed, as we have seen at the Qezi'ot facility, was grave.

Shamir Interviewed on Haifa Blast, Withdrawal

TA2108174588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Pe'erli Shahar; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Shamir] The incident in Haifa is first of all a murderous act, a grave terrorist attack. Today I listened to the father of the child who was seriously injured, and it broke my heart.

[Shahar] How does the Israeli Cabinet plan to combat the uprisings inside the Green Line?

[Shamir] I would not call them uprisings. This was an act of terrorism and murder. We have experienced such attacks before, and just as we overcame them then, we will overcome this wave as well.

[Shahar] Is there no special deployment designed specifically to combat this wave of attacks?

[Shamir] Our forces are ready. There is no doubt in my mind that we will capture the perpetrators of these horrendous acts wherever they are, thereby putting an end to them.

[Shahar] Late last week you said that as part of peace negotiations with our neighbors there will be no further withdrawal. The Alignment leaders attacked you about this today, arguing that the Camp David accords also mention the possibility of a withdrawal from the territories.

[Shamir] I said that the Camp David Accords do not make a withdrawal obligatory. I insist on negotiations without preconditions.

[Shahar] In view of the latest Jordanian instructions regarding the status of the Palestinian Arabs in Judaea and Samaria, will Usrael assist the families that will be affected?

[Shamir] What instructions?

[Shahar] The decision to discontinue payment to Jordanian employees, for example.

[Shamir] The Civil Administration has always taken care of the local residents' well-being, and it will continue to do so—particularly with respect to those who do not participate in anti-Israeli riots.

Cabinet Criticizes Rabin's Security Policy

TA2108113988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's security policy came under a barrage of revilement again in today's Cabinet session. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that Minister Ari'el Sharon argued that a sense of a lack of security prevails in Jewish settlements, while Minister Arens demanded that IDF troops take over houses along problematic roads. Minister Rabin said that the mission is to reduce violence in the territories as much as possible; however, violence cannot be eradicated altogether, Rabin said, and action must be taken within the parameters of the law. In the course of the session, Chief of Staff Dan Shomron said that if the IDF does not abide by the law, it will soon turn into a street gang. After the session, Alignment ministers said the Likud had made up its mind to sabotage Yitzhaq Rabin's security credibility.

The differences between the Likud and the Alignment also led to the rejection of a proposal to increase security arrangements in sensitive areas. Our correspondent has learned that Minister Shahal proposed that the Energy Ministry foot the bill for illuminating road junctions in the Qatif District, the Jordan Rift Valley, and the Zemah area [south of Lake Tiberias]. Minister Sharon and the Likud ministers, however, demanded that road junctions in Judaea and Samaria also be illuminated. An argument ensued, and it is still not clear whether a decision was adopted on the matter.

Rabin Reports on Popular Committee Detentions

TA2108131888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] At today's Cabinet session, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin reported that approximately 300 members of the popular committees in the territories are already incarcerated. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that the Cabinet heard that there has been a slight rise in the number of attacks in the territories and in the Jerusalem area over the past week.

Minister Rabin said that the IDF must continue to operate within the bounds of the law. He added that under no circumstances would he consider recommending legislation permitting shooting at children.

Minister Sharon said at the session that if there are no laws that effectively stem the uprising, they can be legislated. He noted, however, that he, too, agrees that no law should be passed that would allow the shooting of innocent individuals.

Shomron: No 'Magic Formula' for Ending Uprising

TA2108142888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Dan Shomron reiterated his view that those who think there is a magic formula for putting an end to the uprising in the territories instantly are deeply mistaken. He maintains that the roots of the uprising run deep and are firmly embedded in the residents' consciousness. The anniversaries that are marked periodically increase tension. Nevertheless, the IDF has succeeded in keeping the uprising at a level far lower than before.

Regarding events in the Qezi'ot lockup facility, the chief of staff said that the military police are continuing their investigation, following which a statement will be issued. He noted, however, that running a large detention center is problematic. The IDF nonetheless has the answers on how to maintain the detainees under such conditions, he affirmed.

The chief of staff and Major General 'Amram Mitzna', the commander of the Central Command, toured Nabulus today, where they were briefed by district commanders.

More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

7 Wounded in West Bank Riots

TA1908160588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Seven people were wounded today in riots in the village of Artas near Bethlehem and in the Al-Am'ari refugee camp near Ramallah. They were taken to hospitals in East Jerusalem and Ramallah.

Curfew Remains on Gaza Camp

TA2008042188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The curfew was lifted from almost all parts of the Gaza Strip this morning. The curfew remains only at the al-Nusayrat refugee camp. The curfew was imposed on the entire Gaza Strip last Sunday evening.

Arab Youth Dies of Wounds

TA2008203688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] An Arab youth from the village of Tammun near Nabulus, who was wounded by IDF soldiers' gunfire 2 days ago, died of his wounds at the hospital today. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that an IDF unit on a routine mission in the village was attacked by several knife wielding villagers. The soldiers opened fire and wounded two of the assailants. One of them died today.

The curfew on the Tulkarm, Qalandiyah, Balatah, and Al-Am'ari refugee camps as well as on the township of Balatah remained in effect today.

Curfews Imposed in Gaza Strip

TA2108052088 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Early this morning the security forces clamped curfews on the refugee camps of Al-Shati' and Dayr al-Balah, on three neighborhoods in the refugee camp in Rafah, and on the Shaykh al-Radwaan neighborhood in Gaza. A curfew also remains in effect in the Al-Nusayrat refugee camp.

In Judaea and Samaria, curfews remain in effect in the refugee camps of Tulkarm, Qalandiyah, Balatah, and Al-Am'ari and in the town of 'Anabta.

Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the security forces have increased their alertness today, particularly in the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem, for fear of an increase in disturbances due to the 20th anniversary of the fire in the Al-Aqsa Mosque marked today.

Jerusalem Firebomb Injures 3

TA2108102288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] A firebomb was thrown at an Egged bus no. 25 this morning and wounded three passengers. Reporter Steve Rodan says the attack took place in the Shu'fat section of Jerusalem about 90 minutes ago. Police have closed off the area and are conducting a search.

7 Arrested in Firebomb Attack

TA2108111888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] This morning the police arrested seven Arab youngsters, including three minors, who are suspected of having thrown three firebombs and a smoke grenade at the front yard of a private residence in Or Yehuda. There were no casualties and no damage was caused.

The ITIM correspondent reports that the incident took place at around 0400. The owner of the house told policemen that he woke up when he heard a loud explosion in the front yard. Investigations show that only one firebomb ignited, and it extinguished itself. The two other firebombs and the smoke grenade did not explode. The background of the incident remains unclear.

Nabulus Residents Injured

TA2108141788 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Three Nabulus residents were injured by IDF gunfire this afternoon. This happened as local riots were being dispersed. This report was filed by our correspondent in Judaea and Samaria, 'Eran Ben-Porat.

2 Killed in Riots 21 Aug

TA2108173388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Two men were killed today in riots in the territories. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that an 18-year-old youth was killed this evening during a violent riot in the Al-Burayj refugee camp in the Gaza Strip.

Sources in Al-Ittihad Hospital said that a 17-year-old youth was brought to the hospital dead, shot by the security forces. According to the Arab sources the killed youth is Hamdan Sawatta, a resident of the village of Tubas.

Earlier today three men were wounded in Nabulus.

Curfews Lifted in Gaza

TA2208052188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] The security forces have lifted the curfews on the refugee camps in the Gaza Strip. As of this morning, only the Al-Burayj refugee camp, where a youngster was killed last night during a violent riot, remains under curfew.

Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that few laborers left the Gaza Strip this morning to work in Israel. There is a general strike in the Gaza Strip today in compliance with leaflet no. 23.

5 Wounded in 'Askar Camp

TA2208074888 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0730 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Five residents of the 'Askar refugee camp near Nabulus were wounded overnight during an operation launched by the security forces. The five were transferred to hospitals in Nabulus. The IDF is looking into the circumstances of the incident.

A curfew was imposed this morning on Nabulus as part of activities initiated by the security forces to prevent disturbances today, which has been declared a day of an absolute general strike. [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0630 GMT on 22 August reports that there is "a full commercial strike in Judaea and Samaria today. In several districts, laborers did not leave for work in Israel. Public transportation is operating only partially, while government and municipality offices are open."]

Strike, Arrests in Jerusalem

TA2208090488 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Aug 88 pp 1, 2

[Report by Andy Court]

[Excerpts] A firebomb that did not ignite injured three passengers on a bus travelling along the Shu'fat Road in northern Jerusalem yesterday, the police said. [passage omitted]

The incident was one of several disturbances in the capital yesterday, most of them in the morning hours. A 20-kilogram concrete block was dropped from a roof on a Border Police patrol in the Old City, but did not hit anyone. In East Jerusalem, a stone smashed the window of another Egged bus number 25 on Salah al-Din Street. No one was injured.

Arab youths threw stones in Abu Tor and burned a tyre in Silwan, the police spokesman said. An empty bottle was hurled at a pedestrian walking on Sultan Suleyman Street; it did not injure him.

Last night at about 9 p.m., police fired flares and tear gas to disperse Arab youths who burned tyres and threw stones in Silwan, Palestinian sources said. Residents of Silwan, which is located south of the Old City, reported that police also fired tear gas several times last week sometime in the early hours of the morning.

The Jerusalem police spokesman issued no report of the incident last night but reported several incidents earlier in the day. [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0630 GMT on 22 August adds: "Overnight the Jerusalem police arrested 10 Arab residents of East Jerusalem suspected of having taken part in recent disturbances."]

Stores in East Jerusalem were closed completely to commemorate the anniversary of the day that an Australian tourist set fire to the Al-Aqsa Mosque in 1969. The Unified Leadership of the Uprising had called for a general strike and protests to mark the anniversary.

A pipe bomb and a petrol bomb were thrown last night at a tourist bus on its way from Jerusalem to Bethlehem. The bomb did not explode and there were no serious casualties. The attack took place 500 metres south of the Gilo Junction on the Bethlehem road. the pipe-bomb hit one of the tourists on the neck, injuring him slightly, and fell to the floor without going off. The driver removed it from the bus and it was later detonated by a sapper. The petrol bomb caught fire near a wheel of the bus, but did not cause any damage.

Leftist Protest at Detention Camp Prevented

TA2008123788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Policemen and soldiers stopped a group of some 100 leftwing protest movement members from demonstrating in front of the Qezi'ot detention camp in the Negev today. Our correspondents Moti Amir and Hasan Abu Ziyad report that the demonstrators were halted at a gas station near the camp. Among the demonstrators were Knesset Members 'Oded Zucker, Charlie Biton, and Tawfiq Tubi. The demonstrators demanded that the camp be dismantled and that the detainees be released.

A group of settlers from the northern part of the Gaza Strip arrived at the gas station and held a counter demonstration against the leftist activists. The signs they carried said that the leftists should also be locked up in Qezi'ot while the detainees should be deported since holding them is wasteful.

Nehamkin Warns of Interference With Arab Exports

TA2208043788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin says the government will prevent the marketing of agricultural produce from the territories to the Arab countries and European markets if local farmers cooperate with hostile elements or the popular committees.

Minister Nehamkin told our correspondent Ya'aqov Balselboim that in order to enforce its policy, Israel will not hesitate even to violate agreements concerning agricultural produce.

The agriculture minister leaves for Poland today to attend a session of the European chapter of the FAO.

Crown Prince Attends Ziaul Haq Funeral

JN1908161188 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Amman—His Majesty King Husayn saw His Highness Crown Prince Hasan off when the latter left Amman this evening for Pakistan heading the Jordanian delegation to attend former Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's funeral. He will also convey the condolences of his majesty, the government, and the people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to His Excellency Ghulam Ishaq Khan, acting president of Pakistan, the Pakistani government, and the late president's family. His Highness Prince Ghazi ibn Muhammad, the prime minister, chief of the Royal Court, his highness the chief chamberlain, and a number of officials were also present to see his highness off.

The delegation includes His Highness Prince Talal ibn Muhammad, the chief of the Armed Forces, the deputy prime minister and minister of education, the Jordanian ambassador to Pakistan, and the Jordanian Royal Air Force commander. The Pakistani ambassador in Amman left on the same plane.

Returns From Pakistan

JN2108060788 Amman Domestic Service in English 0430 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Excerpt] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan returned home last night after attending the state funeral of the late Pakistani President Muhammad Ziaul Haq. His highness conveyed to the Pakistani acting president condolences from his majesty the king and those of the government and people of Jordan. The crown prince was received at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Ghazi ibn Muhammad, the prime minister, the court minister, and a number of senior officials. [passage omitted]

Al-Rifai Issues Instructions on W. Bank Measures

JN2008152688 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1422 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Amman, 20 Aug (PETRA)—Conforming with the Jordanian Government's disengagement of the legal and administrative relationship with the occupied West Bank, the prime minister issued the following instructions to be implemented today:

1. To further the interests of the Palestinian brothers in the occupied West Bank, Jordanian passports will be issued at their request. Such passports will be valid for 2 years.

2. Every person residing in the West Bank before 31 July 1988 is considered a Palestinian, not a Jordanian national.

3. Citizens of the occupied West Bank will be given temporary passports valid for 2 years according to the same documents that were valid in the Civil Registration Department and the General Passport Department prior to the disengagement.

4. Every person who wishes to obtain a temporary Jordanian passport should report in person to the General Passport Department with the valid application form and documents. Applications will only be accepted from the person in question.

5. The documents required to obtain a temporary passport endorsed only by the Awqaf Department in the occupied West Bank will be valid.

6. Passports issued before 31 July 1988 will remain valid until they expire. Their validity will be amended to 2 years when their holders report to the General Passport Department to conduct any transactions on the passport. In this case, a temporary passport will be issued without collecting the legal fees.

7. These instructions will not apply to citizens with family reunion cards.

8. Temporary passports for Gaza Strip citizens will continue to be renewed. They will be valid only for 2 years.

9. Issuance of new temporary passports for Gaza Strip citizens whose passports expired 1 or more years ago will cease.

10. Temporary passports, valid for 2 years, will still be issued for the persons listed in the passports which were given to the Gaza Strip citizens.

11. The Civil Registration Department and the General Passport Department will cease to issue family books for citizens of the occupied West Bank.

12. All family books held by citizens of the occupied West Bank, issued by the civil registration department, will be considered invalid. When they have occasion to call at the department, the family books will be stamped invalid, and the department will effect any additions or endorsements from that date.

13. Having been cancelled, family books and identity cards will be kept by holders as means of identification.

14. Certificates of birth, death, marriage, divorce, and inheritance will be valid if certified by the chief Qadi department in the West Bank and the Palestinian Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry.

15. Bridge green or yellow cards will remain valid provided visits by green card holders do not exceed 1 month. Students, workers abroad, and patients seeking hospital treatment in the Kingdom are exempted.

16. Agricultural goods will still be imported from the West Bank and Gaza Strip subject to market needs. The cooperative organization will be the body accredited to issue certificates of origin for agricultural goods allowed into the Kingdom from the West Bank. The Gaza Strip Charity Organization will issue certificates of origin for agricultural goods imported from there.

17. The Agriculture Ministry in Amman will issue permits required for bringing in agricultural produce in coordination with the Palestinian Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry.

18. Industrial goods will be imported subject to market needs according to the previous bases.

19. West Bank establishments such as municipalities, trade unions, associations, youth centers, and clubs may withdraw their deposits from the banks in the Kingdom upon presenting checks endorsed by the Palestinian Affairs Department.

20. Previous regulations related to land registration will still be valid. Recommendations by the Awqaf Department to obtain land registration deeds for the West Bank citizens will be acceptable. The Awqaf Department's endorsement of documents coming from the West Bank will also be acceptable.

2 1. If the occupied West Bank schools adopt the Jordanian curriculum, the Ministry of Education will make the necessary arrangements to hold the General Secondary Education—Tawjihi—examination in the West Bank. The examination papers will be marked and scrutinized and certificates issued by the Ministry of Education in Amman.

2 2. The West Bank trucks will be allowed to enter the Kingdom provided they are subjected to temporary entry regulations for trucks.

Al-Rifa'i on 'Family Books'

JN2108085688 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 21 Aug 88 pp 1,5

[By Nirmin Murad and Elia Nasrallah, JORDAN TIMES staff writers]

[Excerpt] Amman—The Jordanian family registration book is emerging as the most important document in determining Jordanian nationality. It was chosen Saturday by the government to be the one document which Jordanians would carry and Palestinian residents of the West Bank would not.

According to a 22-point statement by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i Saturday, the Civil Status Department and the Department of Passports will stop issuing family registration books to West Bankers. The measure, in effect Saturday, follows Jordan's decision, announced July 31, 1988, to sever legal and administrative ties with the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

"All family registration books issued to West Bank residents will be cancelled as of this day," said Saturday's statement, carried by the Jordan news agency, PETRA. The books now in circulation will be considered only as identification documents, the statement said.

The statement defined "Palestinians" as all those permanent residents of the West Bank as of July 31, 1988. All such residents are "Palestinian, not Jordanian," it said.

The statement reaffirmed that the new measures were adopted by the government in implementation of the Kingdom's decision to cut formal ties with the West Bank and "aim at facilitating the affairs of our Palestinian brothers in the occupied West Bank."

At the same time, the statement said, Jordan will continue to issue Jordanian passports to Palestinians who want to carry them but the documents will be valid for renewable two-year terms instead of the regular five-year duration. Regular passports already issued to permanent residents of the West Bank will remain valid until their expiry date but will be renewed only two years, the statement said. [sentence as published]

Further explaining the measures, Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani told the JORDAN TIMES that there would no be visible difference between the two-year passports and the regular five-year passports issued to Jordanian citizens. "They will look exactly alike except that their respective duration of validity will differ," Al-Dajani said.

The prime minister's statement said the new steps would not apply in the case of citizens carrying the Palestinian reunification document (lam al shamel). Al-Dajani said this category of people was not included in the measures since the reunification documents entitles the holders to retain ownership of property in the West Bank. "This document is carried by people who have been living outside the West Bank since before 1967 and some of them do not even live in the East Bank," the minister noted.

Passports for Gazans

Gazans who already possess Jordanian passports will continue to carry them but the passports would be renewed upon expiry only for renewable terms of two years. Also, no new Jordanian passport will be issued to Gazans who already do not have one and those passports which have been invalid for more than one year will not be renewed, according to the statement from the Prime Ministry.

Procedures in Amman

One of the effects of Jordan's move to sever formal ties with the West Bank was the closure of offices there handling affairs related to passports. These offices were closed in line with the retirement of civil servants as of Aug 16 1988. Al-Dajani said the procedures of renewing passports now would have to be completed in Amman.

"Everyone must come to Amman to finish their paper work," Al-Dajani said. He explained that the now-closed offices in the West Bank used to scrutinize papers, distribute forms and collect applications for once-a-month delivery to Amman for final processing.

According to the prime minister's statement, the Kingdom will only make some minor changes in current procedures covering the entry of people as well as the traffic of manufactured and agricultural products from the occupied territories.

'Green Cards'

People who carry green travel documents for crossing the bridge will be limited to a maximum of a one-month stay in the Kingdom, the announcement said. The green card identifies the holder as a resident of the occupied territories while yellow cards signify that the holder is living somewhere else. The statement said students, Palestinians working abroad, and the sick who come to Jordan for treatment were exempt from this limitation on period of stay.

The Kingdom will also participate in the educational process in the occupied territories "if schools in the West Bank opt for the Jordanian educational system," the announcement said. The Ministry of Edcuation will provide schools with all necessary arrangements to hold the last year of school examination (tawjihi) in the occupied territories and will grade and issue degrees in Amman, it said. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister on Passports, Elections

JN2208091988 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Aug 88 pp 1, 17

[By Khulud al-Ja'uni]

[Text] Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani issued instructions to the General Passports and Civil Registration Department in order to implement the regulations issued by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i on temporary passports and family books. The department staff began accepting applications from citizens and issuing 2-year temporary passports yesterday.

In exclusive statements to AL-DUSTUR, Al-Dajani said that the temporary passports differ from the Jordanian ones only in duration. These passports will be stamped temporary and will bear a stamp showing the duration.

Al-Dajani explained that people with the [Bridge] green cards must call at the Inspection and Follow Up Department [of the General Security Directorate] to amend their status according to these regulations on the duration of their visit. He pointed out that the objective behind this is to prevent emigration. He said that people with the yellow cards are not included in the new regulations. Their statuses will remain as before the issuance of these regulations. Gaza Strip citizens carrying 1-year temporary passports who live in, or outside, the strip, and whose passports have been expired for more than a year cannot renew these passports.

Al-Dajani said that the General Passports Department will still renew temporary passports for Gaza citizens who hold these passports. The duration of the passports will be 2 years instead of 3. Temporary passports will still be issued for citizens registered in their parents' passports. These citizens can obtain a separate passport when they reach the legal age.

Al-Dajani explained that citizens of the Gaza Strip residing in Jordan since 1967 who were issued with 3-year temporary passports according to the Higher Royal Committee's resolution No 185, will continue to be issued passports for 2 years only—like the West Bank citizens.

He added that no change will be made to regulations governing visits by Palestinian citizens residing abroad when they visit Jordan. The status of citizens working in the Arabian Gulf who hold passports or family reunion cards will remain the same.

Answering a question, the interior minister explained that citizens carrying family reunion cards who wish to exchange their Jordanian passport with a 2-year temporary one can do so easily.

Al-Dajani denied that there are intentions to cancel the Inspection and Follow Up Department. He pointed out that the department is responsible for organizing and following up the citizens' movement across the bridges. No change will be made in its work and responsibility. It will still carry out its duty as in the past. The department was given the necessary instructions to take into consideration the inhabitants' humanitarian circumstances and to study each case individually.

On the other hand, Al-Dajani said that an amendment to House of Representatives Elections Law No 22 of 1986 is under consideration. A committee was formed in the Interior Ministry to draw up recomendations and suggestions based on the experience gained from the implementation of certain clauses in the law during the voter registration and the work of the grievances committees. The committee will also present ideas on amending the law in light of the recent decision to disengage legal and administrative relationships with the West Bank. He said that voter registration will continue until 2 September 1988. He explained that voter lists were displayed on 15 August for a week. The grievances committee will display tables containing voters' names in each constituency after performing a 1-week operation of adding and cancelling names. Each person whose name is not included in these tables, or whose personal data are erroneously recorded in them, can submit a protest within 10 days from the day on which these tables are displayed. The committee must issue its decisions regarding the protests within 3 days from the end of the protest period.

Answering a question on the date for elections and rumors on this subject, the interior minister said that there are rumours about the date for the elections. These rumors are unfounded, because the date for any election will not be set before concluding all stages of ammendment to the current election legislation and before this legislation comes into effect.

Shams al-Din Says U.S. Sought Election Delay

NC2108061488 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] In a press statement published today, Robert Franjiyah has stated that his father [former President Sulayman Franjiyah] is determined to continue the elections battle until the end.

In another development, Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, has maintained that the Americans and Israelis were against holding the 18 August Chamber session. He added: I do not want to say that the deputies who failed to attend the session did so in response to the U.S. and Israeli wish, but there are forces in Lebanon which actually accomplished this wish. He went on to say that the Chamber's session reflects the true image of the Lebanese regime, which colluded with the Israelis and invited them to occupy Lebanon. He urged the Chamber of Deputies to fortify itself against the U.S. and Israeli scheme and the plots being hatched by the forces which prevented certain deputies from attending the session on 18 August.

Ja'ja' Urges Immediate 'Dialogue' on Presidency

NC1908165388 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] In a statement to the CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY today, Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Samir Ja'ja' reemphasized the position of the Lebanese Forces on the need to hold the presidential elections before the constitutional deadline and in a calm atmosphere. He called on all parties to agree on a consensus president [ra'is ijma'] who is not controversial but accepted by all.

Dr Ja'ja' noted that he respects the desire of the Chamber of Deputies to choose whomever it deems fit and qualified as president of Lebanon. He also respects both the deputies who attended the session and those who did not, he said.

Dr Ja'ja' expressed the belief that not all the deputies who attended the session would have voted for Franjiyah. Consequently, the outcome of yesterday's session is an indicator which must be taken into account by Franjiyah, who must withdraw his candidacy in order to spare the country further problems, he said. If Franjiyah continues to stand for president, this will entail further complications and tensions, he declared. It will also mean that Franjiyah and those backing him want to prevent the election of a new president and leave the country in a constitutional vacuum.

Dr Ja'ja' expressed the hope that yesterday's parliamentary session will be a lesson to all parties and an incentive for them to reconsider their positions and calculations.

He expressed the readiness of the Lebanese Forces to immediately begin a dialogue with all parties to agree on a new president for Lebanon.

Al-Jumayyil Election Message to Syria Unanswered

NC2008054788 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] It was revealed today that President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil sent an verbal message to Syrian officials last Tuesday; that is, 2 days before the Chamber of Deputies session to elect a new president. In his message the president stressed his desire to cooperate in implementing plansmfor electing a president of conciliation, one who would cooperate with Damascus sincerely, seriously, and effectively, and who would also be capable of achieving accord and guaranteeing Lebanese national interests.

The sources that revealed this message said that President al-Jumayyil also set certain qualifications for a candidate of accord and listed some names as examples, thus leaving the door open for other suggestions. He also noted that the alternatives could be discussed by the Lebanese and Syrian regimes. The president expressed his readiness to dispatch an envoy to Damascus immediately to discuss the names of candidates of conciliation. However, the Lebanese side has not yet received a reply to the message. The sources added that Al-Jumayyil had already briefed U.S. officials on its contents.

Syria Asserts 'Absolute Commitment' to Franjiyah

NC2008055988 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has met with Robert Franjiyah. It has been reported that Khaddam has reiterated Syria's absolute commitment to support former President Sulayman Franjiyah and that it will not back down from this decision.

Alleged Syrian Deal on Presidency Said 'Baseless'

NC2008111988 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] An official military source has described as baseless a statement made by an official of a local organization that the Army commander has received various offers to control the eastern area in return for gaining support in the presidential elections.

It should be recalled that Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces, announced yesterday that Syria has put forward names, including that of General Michel 'Awn. Paqraduni added that Syria has proposed to him that the Army take control of the eastern area in return for the Presidency.

Raymond Iddih Affirms Presidential Candidacy

JN2008133688 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] In a telephone interview with our radio station, Raymond Iddih, who lives in Paris, affirmed that he will announce his candidacy for the presidential elections in Lebanon as soon as the date for the next parliamentary session is announced. This session will be dedicated to this election. As is known, the first session for the presidential elections to elect a successor for Amin al-Jumayyil was held last Thursday. It was postponed to a later date due to lack of a quorum, despite the fact that the only officially announced candidate so far is former President Sulayman Franjiyah.

Iddih affirmed his intention to officially nominate himself after the date of the next parliamentary session to elect a new Lebanese president is set in reply to some media information over the past few days that indicated his unwillingness to nominate himself. Contacts continue between Damascus, Beirut, and Washington in search of a settlement, a way out of the Lebanese presidential elections crisis, and to find a reconciliation candidate that all parties in the Lebanese arena will accept.

Junblatt Says Iraq Sends Arms to Lebanese Forces

NC2108133588 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] In an interview with the Abu Dhabi-based paper AL-WAHDAH, PSP leader Walid Junblatt has accused Amin al-Jumayyil and the leaders of the Phalangist forces of blocking the presidential elections in order to ensure that Army Commander Michel 'Awn assumes office. Junblatt added: We do not accept a president who can turn Lebanon into a military state such as El Salvador or Guatemala.

In another development, Junblatt accused Iraq of dispatching arms shipments to the Lebanese Forces. He stated that Lebanese Forces Deputy Commander Karim Paqraduni had held talks with the Iraqis to conclude a deal according to which the Phalangist forces would be supplied with weapons and military hardware. Junblatt added: In my opinion, this issue does not serve the interests of Iraq, and we hope Baghdad will change its policy in Lebanon.

Paqraduni Denies Arms Received From Iraq

JN2208063088 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2012 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Interview with Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces, by an unidentified Radio Monte Carlo correspondent, carried within the "Panorama" program—date, place not given; recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] We thank you for answering our questions on Radio Monte Carlo. The first question is posed in light of the presidential elections. The first session lacked a quorum. Would you give us an idea about the prevailing atmosphere in Lebanon and is there a possibility of fixing the date of the second session?

[Paqraduni] We prefer that the second session not be held before achieving a national reconciliation on the president to be elected. The first session was obstructed because of the nomination of President Franjiyah, who is a president of collision and defiance. We believe that with this obstruction, the parliamentary majority wants a president of accord, not a president of collision.

[Correspondent] Mr Karim, it seems from statements made to our radio by Minister Nabih Birri that the elections will be completely obstructed. Minister Birri now talks about achieving a reconciliation in Lebanon before electing a president of accord.

[Paqraduni] The strange thing about Minister Birri is that he always wants something and its opposite. He does not want a president of accord, yet he wants national reconciliation. I cannot understand this logic at all. We suggest that the Lebanese should agree on a president of accord who works for national reconciliation among all Lebanese. Placing conditions on the elections actually obstructs the Constitution and elections, and ends in a vacuum. Minister Nabih Birri changes his stand from one day to the next. A few months ago, when Damascus agreed on a president of accord, Minister Birri called for a president of accord. Damascus now calls for... [changes thought] rejects the idea of a president of accord. We hear Birri rejecting this president, from Damascus.

[Correspondent] Mr Karim, the Lebanese Forces reject the candidacy of former President Sulayman Franjiyah. However, we recently heard that the Forces will present the name of a candidate. Is it possible to say something about this?

[Paqraduni] No, the Lebanese Forces will not name a candidate because they believe that a desirable president should be considered a candidate of accord and reconciliation among all parties. We refused to nominate Dr Samir Ja'ja' so that his candidacy would not lead to a battle or to the disappearance of the idea of agreement on a president. So far, there is no candidate for the Lebanese Forces. The Lebanese Forces want to work together with various Christian and Muslim factions to nominate a reconciliation candidate. We do not seek a Forces' candidate, but a reconciliation one.

[Correspondent] Therefore, you oppose the candidate who is said to be Syria's candidate. What is required from Syria?

[Paqraduni] Syria should facilitate, not complicate; it should talk, not boycott. For the past 3 years, Syria has imposed a boycott on Lebanon which resulted in the present crisis. For this, we call for an agreement with

Syria and with all Lebanese on a president who must be for all, not against everybody. This is a logical position, expressing a balance of power in Lebanon. We do not want a victor or vanquished in Lebanon. We do not want to be a victor because this will lead nowhere. We also refuse to be vanquished. We want all of us to emerge victors to build peace, which we hope will come soon.

[Correspondent] Mr Karim, hopes are one thing and the actual situation is another. Does the situation in Lebanon allow an agreement to be reached on a president?

[Paqraduni] Certainly. A few weeks ago the idea of accord prevailed. However, American-Syrian differences emerged recently in the wake of Murphy's visit and complicated the situation. You know that Syria has many calculations, not only Lebanese calculations. A few months ago, Syria pledged to Murphy that elections will take place on time, in accordance with the Lebanese Constitution, to elect a president of accord. Matters were complicated during Murphy's visit 10 days ago. Syria reconsidered its position and began to complicate the issue instead of facilitating it. I know that the problem is in Syria, in Damascus. If Damascus wants to facilitate things, there is more than one Lebanese who is qualified to become a president of accord. In Lebanon there are many friends of Syria whom we can accept and many of our friends whom Syria can accept. The main decision is that the elections should be conducted and Syria should again accept the idea of a president of accord. This is related to American-Syrian contacts which were recently obstructed. This means they are venting their anger at us. When Syria and the United States differ over something, they vent their anger at us.

[Correspondent] Mr Karim, Minister Walid Junblatt today said that the Lebanese Forces and President al-Jumayyil are trying to obstruct the elections to ensure that Army Commander Michel 'Awn assumes office. Is there a comment on this?

[Paqraduni] My comment is that General Michel 'Awn is not, so far, a candidate. We prefer that the Army not enter politics. We do not want to politicize the Army in order not militarize politics. We like to separate the Army, which defends the homeland, from politics which is the responsibility of the politicians. This is our position on Gen Michel 'Awn.

[Correspondent] Mr Karim, we would like to ask you this question in your capacity as the deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces. Walid Junblatt accused Iraq of supplying the Forces with large quantities of arms. Is this correct?

[Paqraduni] We are proud of any relationship with any Arab country, particularly the state of Iraq. Our relationship with Iraq is not based on arms supply, as Minister Junblatt believes because he is accustomed to this kind of relationship. Our relationship with Iraq is a friendly one. Iraq has waged a long battle and knows the taste of peace and realizes that peace is important. I believe that Iraq's role in the future will be to achieve peace in the region and in Lebanon, not to supply arms. This is secondary to the existing relationship with Iraq and to the major role which Iraq will assume after the Gulf war ends.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Mr Karim Paqraduni.

[Paqraduni] You are welcome.

14 Wounded in West Beirut Car Explosion 21 Aug

NC2108071388 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] According to security sources, a huge explosion was heard in the Al-Rawshah area of West Beirut at 0835 today. It has transpired that the blast was caused by the explosion of a booby-trapped Mercedes 200 near the Nasr Restaurant. The explosion has left 14 people wounded, caused heavy material damage to nearby buildings, and shattered windowpanes and car windshields. Ambulances, fire fighters, and civil defense squads rushed to the scene to remove casualties and extinguish the fires.

Over 30 Israelis Killed by Suicide Operation

NC2008045788 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Yesterday, for the first time in 2 years a suicide operation was carried out against an Israeli convoy near the Al-Khardali Bridge in the occupied area of Marj 'Uyun, by resistance fighter Haytham Subhi al-Buq, alias 'Abd al-Ra'uf. The Islamic Resistance has announced that the suicide operation resulted in immense Israeli losses, estimated at well over 30 Zionists, whose bodies littered the operation scene. In addition, most of the convoy's vehicles were destroyed.

Israelis Reinforce Positions With Tanks, APC's

NC2008061588 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The Zionist occupation forces continue to reinforce their presence along the occupied border strip in terms of both personnel and war materiel. It has been reported that the Zionist forces brought more than 20 vehicles, including Merkava tanks and M-113 armored personnel carriers, into the area. The Zionist armored force arrived at noon yesterday at their camp in Ibil al-Saqy east of Marj 'Uyun and in the Kawkaba ridges, where it had taken up combat positions.

Meanwhile, a state of alert has been declared among the ranks of the Islamic resistance in the areas.

Israel Reportedly To Attack Palestinian Camps

JN2008085088 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Aug (WAKH)—Press reports said here today that the Egyptian Government has received urgent reports from a number of its embassies abroad stating that the Israeli enemy will deal an effective military blow to the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon. AL-ITTIHAD said these reports disclosed that the plan laid down by the Israeli War Ministry and approved by the Zionist enemy prime minister, Yitzhaq Shamir, calls for the participation of a number of mechanized infantry battalions and 12 Israeli fighter planes in the operation. Israel's pretext is that the uprising in the coming months will enter a new phase engineered by some Palestinian leaderships in southern Lebanon.

Israeli Helicopter Fires At Al-Rashidiyah Camp

NC2108110288 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] An Israeli helicopter flew over the coastal line between Al-Zahrani and Tyre last night and directed bursts of machinegun fire at the Al-Rashidiyah camp. The Israeli aircraft dropped flares during the operation. At the same time, Amal Movement artillery intercepted Israeli gunboats trying to approach the coast and forced them to flee.

Israelis Bring Reinforcements to Jazzin Area

NC2208055388 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0500 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] According to reports received from the Jazzin area, the Israeli occupation forces have brought in around 30 vehicles and 100 soldiers and deployed them on the eastern side of Kafr Hunah. The reports added that these forces were placed in a state of maximum alert and preparedness.

Travelers from the area have said that the enemy vehicles displayed their unit insignias, observing that the enemy forces do this only when an invasion is imminent or when a battle or confrontation is to take place.

PLO Says Amal Injures 3, Arrests 40 Palestinians

NC2008060988 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] In a statement distributed in Sidon, the PLO has accused the Amal Movement of injuring 3 Palestinians and arresting 40 others. The PLO warned the Movement against continuing such practices. Meanwhile, the PFLP issued a similar statement.

Amal-Palestinian Fighting Continues Near Sidon

NC2108111288 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] The areas of Hinsnaya, Baysur, Al Maharbiyah, Al Mujaydil, Kafr Hatta, Kafr Milki, and Sarba southeast of Sidon are currently the scene of ferocious battles between Amal Movement and pro-'Arafat Palestinian gunmen. Various types of weapons are being used in the fighting. Meanwhile, high tension prevails along the combat lines of Darb al Sim, Al Ghaziyah, Jabal al Halib, and Maghdushah. Security sources have monitored intensive troop concentrations by both sides.

Al-Asad Receives Lebanon's Nabih Birri

JN2008200688 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] At 1800 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Nabih Birri, Amal movement leader and Lebanese minister of state for the south and reconstruction, and minister of justice and hydroelectric resources. Talks revolved around the current Lebanese situation.

Birri on Al-Asad, Elections

JN2108143888 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] In an exclusive statement to our radio on the results of his 4-hour meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad last night, Nabih Birri, Lebanese minister of justice and Amal Movement leader, said: I was honored to meet with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. Naturally, the talks dealt with the new developments in Lebanon and the Arab and international arenas.

Minister Birri added: Regarding the presidential elections, which are preoccupying the Lebanese, it was obvious before, during, and after the meeting that the American-Israeli line has obstructed the process of reconciliation and several conciliatory attempts before the elections. This line obstructed elections even in the absence of reconciliation. Now it has become an established fact in national Lebanese policy that there should be a reconciliation prior to elections and that there is no change at all in national Lebanese or Syrian policy on this matter. This means the decision to nominate [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah remains valid. The search should now focus on reconciliation preceding the presidential elections. Any attempt to ignore reconciliation will only turn the Lebanese into searchers for their homeland in the cemeteries of history, as His Eminence Imam Musa al-Sadr put it.

Asked about reconciliation before the presidential elections and the call by the Lebanese Forces and the United States for a compromise president, Birri said: A compromise president is another expression for maintaining the 1943 regime. Why is there this play on words? What is required is reconciliation among the Lebanese—not a compromise president. What is required is reconciliation that brings in a president and not a compromise that makes the president a captive, as was the case during the era of [former] President Sarkis. Replying to our question on Raymond Iddih's decision to nominate himself for the presidency as soon as the date of the second elections session is fixed, Minister Birri said: We will not address the subject of personalities. We talk about reconciliation and say that this matter has become incontestable nationally. The national and Islamic forces will soon embark on real moves to unify ranks and turn this slogan into reality. [passage omitted]

Commentaries on Lebanese Presidential Elections

Radio on 'Obstructing' Elections

JN1908150188 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Obstructing the election of a new president in Lebanon yesterday was a new chance to expose those forces that imposed themselves on the Lebanese arena through guns and terrorism and wanted to confiscate the Lebanese political decision, claiming to themselves the right to express the will of the Lebanese people. Those forces needed no other occasion to reveal their role in obstructing Lebanese political life and paralyzing constitutional institutions. The arms they received from foreign forces make them feel strong. Despite this, their action yesterday ended any last claims that they wish to see Lebanon enter a new stage to enable it to march toward a comprehensive national solution to its crisis and the restoration of peace, security, and brotherhood.

Those who claim to care for Lebanon and for the return of democracy do not pressure and terrorize deputies in eastern Beirut to prevent them from attending the Chamber of Deputies' session to perform their national and constitutional duty. Those who claim the right to express the Lebanese will do not resort to arms to prevent the embodiment of this will by people's representatives through a free voting in one of the most important constitutional elections and democratic practices that affect the future of the people and the country. How can those who drive the country toward a constitutional vaccum and obstruct the presidential elections—by kidnapping deputies hours before the elections, threatening others, and cutting telephone links between Beirut's two parts immediately before the elections—claim that they belong to the Lebanese people and reflect their will, wishes, and aspirations?

What happened yesterday clearly shows that those forces that bully the Lebanese people while depending on foreign military and non-military support realize that the return of a real democratic climate to Lebanon means the beginning of their end. The obstruction of the presidential elections came in response to the desire of Washington and Tel Aviv, which used every means to achieve this. Richard Murphy expressed this U.S. stand when he said that if what he termed as a reconciliatory candidate is not found, then the United States does not want the session. Uri Lubrani, coordinator of the so-called Israeli activities, had sharply attacked the main candidate in yesterday's session, former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah, and made threats regarding the results of his election. The forces associated with Washington and Tel Aviv on the Lebanese arena may imagine that they were successful in their obstruction of yesterday's session, but a careful study shows exactly the opposite. The attendance of 38 deputies despite all terrorist practices by those forces shows where the real popular will lies. If those Armed Forces succeeded in preventing the other deputies from attending to prevent a session quorum, this labels those forces as hostile to the people and the popular will. Those who succeed in obstructing the people's will for a while cannot obstruct it indefinitely. Those who play a U.S.-Israeli role to abort the election cannot claim eagerness for an independent Lebanese will to choose the next Lebanese president.

AL-THAWRAH on Postponement

JN1908070088 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 19 Aug

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Obstruction of Presidential Elections Is To Prevent Accord," AL-THAWRAH says: Those who obstructed the presidential elections once again demonstrated that they do not serve the interests of Lebanon and the Lebanese and that their objectives are to exacerbate the Lebanese crisis, hamper accord, and undermine any opportunity to build and entrench confidence among the Lebanese in the attainment of national salvation.

Yesterday's events convince honest and loyal nationalists in the Lebanese arena of the need to pursue intensive efforts to achieve the tasks and fulfill the responsibilities required to free Lebanon from its tribulations and place it on the course of comprehensive national salvation. The troublemakers and those involved in conspiracies of the Zionist enemy will not succeed in changing this fact. This is because the salvation of Lebanon, the safeguarding of its Arab affiliation and unity, and the liberation of its territory from Israeli occupation have become a central objective of all loyal and nationalist Lebanese citizens. There can be no retraction or bargaining on this objective. From this premise comes the nationalist insistence on abidance by the nationalist traits required of the new Lebanese president and the insistence on the nationalist principles to which he must be committed, because the Lebanese want presidential elections to be an introduction to salvation and accord and a course to liberating southern Lebanon from Israeli occupation. This major objective angers the imperialist and Zionist enemies of Lebanon. Therefore, they manipulate saboteurs to hamper and paralyze the salvation march.

'Conspiracies Concocted'

JN2108154388 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Excerpt] Damascus, 21 Aug (SANA)—Newspapers issued here today affirmed in their editorials that Lebanon is stronger than all conspiracies concocted against it. Lebanon is also stronger than the enemies of the Arab nation represented by the Camp David parties and their agents in the Arab arena. These enemies make their moves in coordination with the Lebanese Forces, the papers added.

The newspaper AL-THAWRAH says the parties to Camp David and their small agents are trying to shuffle the cards in Lebanon to explode the situation and reverse time. The aim is to strike at national unity, obliterate Lebanon's Arab image, torpedo reconciliation, and thus immerse Lebanon in blood to implement a subversive and devastating Israeli scheme. AL-THAWRAH adds: Lebanon's unity, Arabism and the patriotism of its people are embodied in the persistent struggle waged by the Lebanese national resistance that receives unlimited Syrian support to liberate southern Lebanon and defeat the Zionist occupiers. The resistance is capable of defeating the new conspiracy, which the parties to Camp David as well as their tools—namely, the Iraqi regime and the Palestinian right wing—try to peddle with U.S.-Israeli support. The paper affirms that Lebanon will not be a place or a path for conspiracy against Syria and the Arab nation. Those who imagine they can plant Camp David in Lebanon or concoct plots against Syria by taking advantage of the presidential elections are deluded and their calculations are confused, the paper adds. [passage omitted]

Briefs

Departing Tunisian Ambassador

Damascus—People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah this noon met with Tunisian Ambassador in Damascus Mohamed Amamu who came to bid the former farewell on the occasion of the end of his term in office as ambassador to Syria. The two discussed current Arab issues and bilateral relations and the importance of strengthening them. [Summary] [*JN1808131988 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Aug 88*]

Hungarian Ambassador Dies

Wahib Fadil, minister of state for presidential affairs, visited the Hungarian embassy in Damascus today to extend condolences on behalf of President Hafiz al-Asad on the death of Zoltan Szephelyi, the Hungarian ambassador in Damascus. [Excerpt] [*JN1808163288 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Aug 88*]

Afghanistan

Rebels Vow To Avenge Ziaul Haq's Death

BK2108110088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1030 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 21 (AFP)—Afghan rebel leaders have resolved to avenge the death of Pakistani President Mohammed Ziaul Haq, who died Wednesday in a plane crash caused by suspected sabotage, a pro-rebel news agency said Sunday.

The AFGHAN PRESS AGENCY quoted Ahmad Shah, head of an interim government declared by rebel groups fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan Government, as saying, "We are determined to take revenge for the late Ziaul Haq's martyrdom and we have issued proper instruction to our mujahidin in this respect."

Gen Ziaul Haq, a strong supporter of the rebels, was a martyr of the Afghan Jihad (Holy War) as well as of Pakistan, "and therefore Afghan mujahidin will be avenged of the culprit," Mr Shah added.

Gen Ziaul Haq and 29 other people, including high-ranking military officers and the U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, were killed when their plane exploded and crashed.

The Afghan intelligence service is at the top of the list of suspects, analysts said.

Mr Shah also said the mujahidin guerrillas had been advised to "speed up their struggle till the setting up of an Islamic order in Afghanistan."

"We have begun our Islamic Jihad on the trust of God Almighty and will continue it until final victory," he added.

Mr Shah was speaking at a meeting of solidarity with Pakistan attended by rebel leaders who were among the mourners at Gen Ziaul Haq's state funeral here Saturday.

AFP Reports Mujahidin Capture Town in Qandahar

BK2108130088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1253 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Quetta, Pakistan, Aug 21 (AFP)—Afghan rebels have captured an important town in southern Afghanistan and are posing a serious threat to the nearby city of Qandahar, the country's second-largest, resistance sources here said Sunday.

Baba Vali Saheb, about five kilometres from Qandahar, fell to the rebels, or mujahidin, around 11:00 a.m. Saturday, the sources said, adding that all Afghan government troops there were captured.

No immediate casualty figures on either side were available. The sources said that Qandahar was now under serious threat from the rebels, who have been struggling to capture the strategic city for several months. [passage omitted]

In another attack on an Afghan army garrison some 10 kilometres west of Qandahar on Thursday, Afghan rebels killed 18 officers and soldiers and captured 14, rebel sources said.

They said the mujahidin destroyed ammunition and supplies. Only three rebels were injured in the attack, they added.

Soviet troops withdrawing from Afghanistan under a U.N.-mediated accord signed in Geneva in April evacuated Qandahar Province two weeks ago, but mujahidin and diplomatic sources say a few hundred Soviet military and civilian advisers have remained.

In other fighting, mujahidin shot down an Afghan army helicopter Tuesday using a Stinger anti-aircraft missile in the Kajaki District of Helmand Province, west of Qandahar, rebel sources said.

Four helicopters and six bombers were raiding mujahidin positions in the district, where fighting has taken place for three weeks, when the rebels succeeded in downing one of the helicopters, the sources added.

The mujahidin lost 10 fighters, while casualties among troops of the Soviet-backed Kabul government were very high, the sources said.

Meanwhile, the resistance AGENCY AFGHAN PRESS reported that the mujahidin had freed 23 Afghan conscripts in an attack on a jail in the Qandahar suburbs last Monday.

The mujahidin killed nine security guards and captured eight, it said.

Islamabad on Attacks in Laghman, Nangarhar

BK2108090588 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] In Afghanistan, 20 Najibullah regime troops were killed when the mujahidin attacked a military post around Nethulam in Laghman. Eighty-five Kabul regime troops along with their weapons surrendered to the mujahidin. Mujahidin inflicted heavy casualties on Najibullah regime troops during attacks on military posts near Behsud, Shinwar, and Ghanikhel area in Nangarhar Province. They are also reported to have fired rockets on Qandahar airfield and caused damage to military installations.

BAKHTAR Says 'Extremists' Clash in Laghman

LD2108063088 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul, Aug 20, BAKHTAR—Tens of extremists were killed and several others wounded as a result of the severe clashes occurred between Gulbuddin and Rabbani groups in the suburbs of Alishang district Laghman Province recently, our military correspondent reports from that province.

Muhammad Ismail famous as Tarip, a ringleader of Rabbani groupings was also killed during the clashes.

The clashes which were started several days ago are still continuing among the rival groups.

BAKHTAR Reports on Crushing of Rebels

LD2008151888 Kabul BAKHTAR In English 0421 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 19, BAKHTAR—Several groups of extremist elements numbering to over 35 were crushed by the Armed Forces of Afghanistan in subdistricts of five provinces.

The arms and munitions of extremists including heavy machine guns, ground-to-ground missiles and depots of their arms also fell at the hand of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan.

A group of extremists comprising eight persons who were disrupting peace in the surroundings of Baraki district of Lowgar Province was crushed.

Another group of extremists consisting of 15 persons was crushed by the armed forces in the Andkhvoy district of Faryab Province.

Similarly, thirteen extremists were eliminated in Zareh Sharan, centre of Paktika Province and eight extremists in Morghab district of Badghis Province.

According to another report, a depot of arms belonging to the extremists was also detected by the armed forces in Qarah Bagh district of Parvan Province and their weaponry fell at the hand of the armed forces.

'Extremist' Bomb Injures 6 in Kabul

LD2008161688 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] A BIA military correspondent reports that at 1100 today, extremist elements injured six of our compatriots, including two women and a child, by planting explosives in a crowded region of Maywand Wat [in Kabul city center]. The injured persons were taken to hospital.

Situation Reported 'Normal' in Konduz

LD2008054688 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 19, BAKHTAR—Life has completely become normal in Konduz city and shops and markets have begun their transactions normally, according to our military reporter from Konduz city.

Primary goods were once again provided for the use of inhabitants of Konduz city. Similarly, a number of families which had refuged in the far-fledged parts of the city returned to their residences.

Mir Saheb Karwal, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the Central committee of the PDPA and Farid Ahmad Mazdak, first secretary of the Central Committee of Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan met with activists of party and social organisations and state employees of Konduz and asked them to contribute in securing durable peace and to assist the government bodies in this matter.

Najibullah Receives MPR Envoy's Credentials

LD2008222288 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, this afternoon received His Excellency Agbaandorjiyn Tsolmon, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of Mongolia in Afghanistan, for the presentation of his credentials. During this ceremony, Esteemed Faruq Karmal, deputy foreign minister and chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, was also present.

Defense Minister Presents Medals, Decorations

LD2008223488 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Lieutenant General Shanawa Tani, defense minister of the Republic of Afghanistan, today presented medals and decorations to a number of commanders and Defense Ministry department heads. These medals and decorations were approved by the Presidency on the occasion of the 18 August celebration of the restoration of independence and Army Day.

The BAKHTAR military section reports that during this meeting, the defense minister spoke in detail about the political and military situation in Afghanistan. He specified the duties of the heads and commanders of the political departments of Army units and companies for the enhancement of combat operations, for taking care of the living conditions of personnel, for the implementation of the national reconciliation policy, and for ensuring peace and security.

PDPA's Kawiani Returns From Cuba, Nicaragua

LD1908192988 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Najmuddin Kawiani, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the Wolasi Jerga International Affairs Section, headed a delegation which had gone to Cuba and Nicaragua at the invitation of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and Nicaraguan Sandinist National Liberation Front. The delegation returned to Kabul today.

During his visit Najmuddin Kawiani met with Castro, general secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and president of Cuba, and with Daniel Ortega, president of Nicaragua. He briefed the leaderships of those countries on the national reconciliation policy in Afghanistan and on the process of the Geneva accords.

During this visit stress was placed on consolidating interparty relations.

The leaderships of the Republic of Cuba and Nicaragua expressed their support for the national reconciliation policy in Afghanistan and for the efforts of the PDPA toward peace in Afghanistan.

Kabul Carries Commentary on Ziaul Haq's Death

LD2108211788 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] The Bahawalpur incident which led to the explosion of the plane carrying General Ziaul Haq and a number of senior officers of Pakistan's armed forces is the [words indistinct] of the differences which have emerged in the military leadership of Pakistan. BIA's political commentator writes on the Bahawalpur incident:

General Ziaul Haq seized power 11 years ago through a military coup d'etat. In his peculiar military way he endeavored to deprive Pakistanis of their political and social freedoms. He embarked on the creation of political difference among parties, sowing the seeds of ethnic discord and creating a lack of confidence among the Pakistani people. Such a situation led not only to the establishment of an antidemocratic and nonpopular regime and to instability in Pakistan's political situation lowered Pakistan's foreign policy credibility internationally, for General Ziaul Haq, with the adoption of his improvident policy, was only interested in guarantees to safeguard and protect his regime, not in the interests [word indistinct] of the Pakistani people.

Not only did General Ziaul Haq, practicing a policy of terrorism in the region, take a hostile stance toward the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan, but he also indulged in sabotage and subversion in the Republic of India. General Ziaul Haq, by supporting and arming the extremist bands over 8 years, wanted the continuation of war and fratricide in our country in order to divert the attention of the Pakistani people from current affairs. He also wanted to find a good excuse to attract foreign aid under the name of humanitarian aid to the refugees.

General Ziaul Haq's supporters admired his intelligence and his bold courage and considered him to be the only executant of their plundering aims and the true protector of their interests in the region. With his help they rushed to strengthen terrorism in the region. Some time ago Ziaul Haq and a group of his close military aides, including the U.S. ambassador and his special advisor, shed light on what type of things and what can of result from it [as heard]. Only one thing can result: The death of Ziaul Haq is the result of the intensification of his differences with the most reactionary circle, which caused such an incident in collaboration with the heads of the extremist bands.

The Republic of Afghanistan according to its principle is opposed to international terrorism, condemns it, and believes that terrorism cannot solve political issues. What interests the Republic of Afghanistan is the comprehensive implementation of the Geneva agreements. The question of what form the political situation in Pakistan will take in the future belongs to the future. But the Republic of Afghaistan will hold steadfastly to its principled stance on the implementation of the Geneva agreements. And not only does it consider the implementation of the Geneva agreements to be a principal factor in the solution of the regional issues, but it considers its implementation important for the protection of vital Pakistan's national interests and important for loyalty to ensuring peace and stability in the region. The Republic of Afghanistan believes that talks and mutual understanding are the key to solving complicated situations, not resorting to terrorism and acting in a terrorist way.

UN Mission Discusses Soviet Withdrawal

LD1908193588 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] On the occasion of the withdrawal of half of the Soviet limited contingent from the Republic of Afghanistan that has taken place in accordance with the Geneva accords, the spokesperson of the UN secretary general has announced the following:

1. The UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan [UNGOMAP], based on the duties that have been given to it in accordance with the Geneva accords, has observed the process of the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Afghanistan since 15 May 1988, when the Geneva accords came into force.

2. On 14 May 1988, the military representative of the Government of the Soviet Union in the Republic of Afghanistan informed the UN Good Offices Mission that the number of the foreign forces on that date in Afghanistan had reached more than 100,300 persons.

3. On 15 May 1988, the foreign soldiers were stationed in 18 main garrisons in 17 [as received] of the 31 provinces of Afghanistan as follows: Badakhshan, Baghlan, Farah, Ghazni, Helmand, Herat, Kabul, Qandahar, Konarha, Konduz, Lowgar, Nangarhar, Paktia, Parvan, Samangan, Takhar, and Zabol.

4. From 15 May to 7 August 1988, 10 main garrisons, in which foreign forces existed previously, have been evacuated and have been handed over to Afghanistan's forces. These garrisons are located in Baraki, Dowlatabad, Feyzabad, Gardeyz, Ghazni Jalalabad, Qandahar, Konduz Lashkar Gah, and Rukheh.

5. After 15 August 1988, the eight basic garrisons in which foreign forces still exist are located in the following provinces: Baghlan, Herat, Kabul, Parvan, and Samanagan. Also in the vicinity of Hayratan attached to Balkh Province, a number of foreign forces will remain which will be used as a border point for passage of the foreign forces.

6. A team of military officers of the UNGOMAP has observed the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Bagram, Jalalabad, Kabul, Qandahar, Konduz and Shindand as well as the border towns of Hayratan and Towraghondi where it has formed permanent posts. Also a team of the UN Good Offices Mission has visited Gardyez city after the evacuation of the garrisons.

7. The UN secretary general and its envoy are fully satisfied that the withdrawal of the foreign forces is going on based on the Document 4 of the Geneva accords. In this connection they wish to express their sincere thanks for the Governments of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and to the military and civilian representatives for their continuous assistance and all-round cooperation.

Cordovez Examines 'External Elements' in Conflict

LD2008055388 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 19, BAKHTAR—Diego Cordovez, representative of the UN secretary-general issued the following statement on the settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan. What have been described as the "external elements" of the conflict—which were the subject of the Geneva negotiations—are being removed.

On this date I therefore renew my appeal to all Afghans to take advantage of the practical opportunities for peace that the implementation of the accords have opened up. Further military confrontations between Afghans would be senseless, a political settlement would enable the Afghan people to be reunited in their homeland. The killing and the suffering must come to an end. Internal divisions can be resolved by political means. Afghan history attests to this.

During my last trip to the area I emphasized that Afghans should at this time rely on their traditions—as they have always done when facing a crisis. I outlined some ideas that could be used to work out a solution which would bring peace and enable the reconstruction of the country. In line with the mandate that I received at Geneva I saw my role in this context as one of a catalyst—to promote efforts in that direction.

But only the Afghan people can decide how to proceed and what specific political approaches and solutions should be adopted. I remain convinced that the Afghan political forces will [word indistinct] with a sense of responsibility and also with a sense of urgency. I am constantly in touch with my colleague and friend Benon Sevan, alternate representative of the UN secretary-general, who stands ready to facilitate communication between those forces at this crucial period. I myself will spare no effort to assist in these endeavours.

Bangladesh

Ershad Heads Delegation to Ziaul Haq Funeral

BK2008114988 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The state burial of the dead President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan is being held in Islamabad this afternoon with full military honor. The Bangladesh television will telecast live the funeral services. The telecast [words indistinct] satellite will start at 1415.

Heads of state and government and other dignitaries from about 50 countries, including Bangladesh, will attend the state burial of Ziaul Haq.

President Ershad leaves Dhaka for Islamabad this morning to attend the burial. Information Minister Mahbubur Rahman, Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister M.A. Sattar, [words indistinct], the chief of General Staff, Major General Abdul Wahid, and Foreign Secretary Mohammad Moshin will accompany the president. The president will return to Dhaka tonight.

Returns Home From Islamabad

BK2108050088 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Excerpt] President Ershad returned home last night from Islamabad after attending the funeral of President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan. He was accompanied by Information Minister Mahbubur Rahman; Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister M.A. Sattar; Anwar Hussain, MP; and high government officials. On arrival at the Zia International Airport, the president was received by Vice President Nurul Islam, Prime Minister Moudud Ahmed, ministers, chiefs of three services, and high civil and military officials. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Leaves for China 19 Aug
BK1908130588 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury left Dhaka today for Beijing on a week-long official visit to China. Talking to BSS in the capital yesterday, he said the visit will help explore further avenues for expanding the existing bilateral cooperation. Mr Chowdhury will discuss with Chinese leaders bilateral, regional, and international issues of common concern.

India

Venkataraman Returns From Ziaul Haq Funeral
BK2008161488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpts] A galaxy of world leaders was present to give the general [Ziaul Haq] a last salute. The president, Mr R. Venkataraman, who headed a high level delegation comprising ministers and MP's, represented India at the funeral. [passage omitted]

Later, the visiting dignitaries called on the acting president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan. Mr Venkataraman also had a private meeting with him. It was stated to be a courtesy call. [passage omitted] President Venkataraman and his entourage later left Islamabad for New Delhi.

Gandhi Cancels Birthday Celebrations
BK1908124988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, will not have any special engagements in connection with his birthday tomorrow on account of the state mourning of General Ziaul Haq's death. Mr Gandhi has requested people not to call on him at his residence to offer him birthday greetings. Mr Gandhi will be 44 tomorrow.

Commentary on Pakistan Before, After Ziaul Haq
BK1908134388 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Commentary by Dr Kalim Bahadur of Jawahar Lal Nehru University on "Prospects in Pakistan"]

[Text] General Mohammad Ziaul Haq was chosen in 1976 as chief of the Army staff by the then Pakistan prime minister, Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, because he had then given the impression of being least politically inclined. He had superseded several senior generals to occupy the post.

Later, during the anti-Bhutto agitation during the summer of 1977, he had many times publicly pledged his loyalty to Prime Minister Bhutto. However, he forgot all these pledges and toppled Bhutto, the first-ever democratically elected prime minister of Pakistan. He promised to hold elections within 90 days but took another 8 years to fulfill his promise. During this period General Ziaul Haq displayed shrewd intelligence. He showed that he knew the game of power well. He kept the Army generals happy and reshuffled them frequently to prevent anyone becoming a threat. Inconvenient generals were smoothly eased out.

Similarly, he used political parties for his purposes by lure of office and share in power. He could charm even his sworn enemies and was adept in public relations. He had promised that not even a hair on Bhutto's body would be harmed, but when the time came he did not hesitate in hanging him despite worldwide protest and appeal for clemency. His rule will be known for public hangings and floggings of political dissidents, of suppression of individual rights and freedom. He, however, remained alienated from the people of Pakistan. His attempts to build a political system of his own failed.

General Ziaul Haq's sudden exit from the political scene has brought Pakistan to square one. General Ziaul Haq's sudden death brings to the fore the dangers inherent in the system that he had created.

The new president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, is a retired bureaucrat. He may not have the confidence of the military leadership. In the absence of any established political constitution, the real power may still be with the Armed Forces. But the Pakistani Army itself may be without a leader who may command the following of the entire Armed Forces. The new chief of the Army staff may not be able to win the support of the corps commander. There may be dissidents and rivalries in the upper echelons of the Armed Forces. It will, therefore, be some time before issues of power and leadership are clarified.

The new president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has assured that the elections promised by General Ziaul Haq will be held as scheduled. Will the new military leaders agree to hold elections?

In the Pakistani context, new elections will not be an ordinary affair. It may mean the emergence of Pakistan People's Party led by Benazir Bhutto, daughter of the late prime minister, Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto. Therefore, the present military leadership may not want to take the risk and go ahead with the elections. But it has to be seen whether the new military dispensation at Islamabad will be strong and united enough to resist mass pressure for the restoration of democracy in Pakistan.

General Ziaul Haq has left an orphan legacy for his country. There is no constitution worth the name, no strong political institutions, and no political process. He sought legitimacy through his repeated assertions to promulgate an Islamic system. Many Islamic measures were taken and the latest was the shari'a [Islamic Law] ordinance promulgated in mid-June this year. But all these well publicized Islamic measures were seen through by the people as insincere. Even the fundamentalists—Jamiyat-i Islami—which had all along supported General Ziaul Haq, had condemned the latest shari'a ordinance as politically motivated.

General Ziaul Haq had realized that martial law could not last forever. He made several experiments to set up civilian government though without proper elections.

In foreign affairs, General Ziaul Haq has taken Pakistan into very close alliance with the United States. After the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Pakistan had revived its American connection. This led to resumption of massive supplies of U.S. arms which caused understandable alarm and concern in India. Under General Ziaul Haq Pakistan had become the most trusted ally of the United States serving American interests in Southwest Asia, in the Gulf, and in South Asia.

Pakistan's interests converged with those of the United States in Afghanistan. Pakistan served as a conduit of American arms to Afghan mujahidin. General Ziaul Haq did not like the Geneva accord and had put his stakes on victory of the mujahidin in Afghanistan and on the Soviet humiliation. Expectedly, U.S. arms to Pakistan created new tensions in India. Actually under General Ziaul Haq, India-Pakistan relations had reached their lowest ever. He had reversed the process of normalization set in motion by the late Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto.

General Ziaul Haq's unnatural and sudden death will certainly have its impacts on the situation in the region. There may be some breaking of ice on some thorny issues. However, one need not be over optimistic. Much will depend on the new Pakistan leadership and the degree of support it has in the establishment and among the Pakistan people. If, however, the new leadership does not enjoy the support of the Armed Forces and the establishment, uncertainly and confusion may prolong easing the tension in Pakistan.

President Greets Afghanistan's Najibullah

BK1908105588 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Afghan celebrates its independence day today. In a message of greetings to the Afghan president, Dr Najibullah, the president, Dr Venkataraman, conveyed his best wishes for the progress and prosperity of the people of Afghanistan. He said the traditionally close links between Kabul and New Delhi will further develop to the benefit of their peoples.

Darjeeling Gurkha Hill Council Accord Signed

BK2208081788 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] The tripartite agreement on the formation of the Darjeeling Gurkha Hill Council has been signed, bringing to an end the 2 and ½-year-old turmoil in the hill areas. The agreement was signed at the banquet hall of Raj Bhavan [governor's house] in Calcutta this morning by the union home secretary, Mr C.G. Somiah; the state chief secretary, Mr R.N. Sengupta; and the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] president, Mr Subash Ghisingh. The union home minister, Mr Buta Singh; the chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu; the leader of the opposition Congress-I in the State Assembly, Mr Abdus Sattar; and leaders of other political parties were present at the signing ceremony. AIR Calcutta correspondent Sunit Chakraborty says the agreement, which has already been ratified by the West Bengal cabinet, will now be placed as a bill at a special session of the State Assembly on the 29th of this month.

The council will cover the three hill subdivisions of Darjeeling District, namely Darjeeling Sadar, Kalimpong, and Kurseong, and the mauzas [villages] of Lohagarh, Lohagarh Forest, Anga Mohan, Barachenga, Panighata, Chhoto Adalpur, Paharu, Sukhna Forest, Sukhna Part One, Pantapati Forest One, Mahanadi Forest, Champasari Forest, and Salbarichat Part Two within Siliguri Subdivision. The state government has agreed to lease to the council after formation or acquire for it the use of such land as may be required and necessary for administrative and development purposes.

The executive powers of the council will cover, among other things, agriculture, tourism, public works, education up to higher secondary level, animal husbandry, and fisheries. The powers will be subject to the provisions of central and state laws.

The council will have a total of 42 members, out of which 28 will be elected and the rest will be nominated by the state government. The elections to the council will be held before 15 December this year.

Further on Accord With Gurkhas

BK2208091488 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Excerpts] The tripartite agreement on the formation of the Darjeeling Gurkha Hill Council has been signed, bringing to an end the 2 ½-year-old turmoil in the hill areas. [passage omitted]

According to the agreement, the autonomous hill council will have a total of 42 members out of which 28 will be elected and the rest nominated by the state government. The election to the council will be held before 15th of December this year. The executive powers of the council will cover among other things agriculture, public health, tourism, transport, irrigation, and water supply; primary and secondary education; and small-scale cottage industries.

The memorandum of settlement says the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] will withdraw all agitational activities and surrender all unauthorized arms to the district administration. The state government on its part will release all GNLF activists still in custody after reviewing their cases within the period of 15 days. The state government also withdraws all cases of disciplinary action against the employees in context of agitation.

Immediately after the signing of the agreement, the union home minister, the state chief minister, and the GNLF leader addressed a crowded press conference where they expressed happiness over the accord. Mr Buta Singh said the agreement will pave the way for negotiated settlement of similar problems in other parts of the country. He hoped that normalcy will return fast to the hill areas, which has seen a lot of unrest in the recent years. Mr Buta Singh thanked Mr Jyoti Basu and Mr Ghisingh for their cooperation in solving the problem.

Violent Incidents Coantinue in Punjab State

2 Senior Policemen Killed

BK1908155988 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The senior superintendent of police Patiala, Mr Sital Das, and the superintendent of police, Mr Baldev Singh Brar, were shot dead by a suspended ASI [Assistant Subinspector of Police] this afternoon. The ASI, who was called to the police station for inquiry, later shot himself dead.

Elsewhere in the state, a hardcore terrorist, Hari Singh Lehra Channa, has been arrested. According to police Hari Singh was wanted in several cases, including the killing of 18 persons this year in Bhatinda District.

Meanwhile, terrorists gunned down four persons, including a woman, in separate incidents in Amritsar District last night.

'Terrorists' Kill 6, Injure 3

BK2008092288 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] In Punjab, six persons were shot dead and three members of the security forces seriously injured by terrorists in separate incidents since last night.

In Amritsar District, three persons were shot dead in Billowan village and one in Pandorigolan. In Gurdaspur District, terrorists attacked a special police post in Pandori village and shot dead a local volunteer. A police constable and a home guard were seriously injured.

In another incident, a shopkeeper was gunned down by terrorists in Babui village near Batala. A police inspector was shot at and seriously injured while he was waiting at a bus stand in Gokkuwal village near Batala this morning.

'Hard-Core Terrorist' Killed

BK2108072688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0630 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] A hard-core terrorist, Avtar Singh Brahma, has been killed in an encounter with the police. The director general of Punjab Police, Mr K.P.S. Gill, said in Amritsar today that Avtar Singh Brahma was killed by the Rajasthan Police in an encounter in village Kot Hindu Mal on the Punjab and Rajasthan border on the 21st of last month.

2 'Terrorists' Killed 21 Aug

BK2208060388 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 22 Aug 88

[Text] In Punjab, two terrorists shot dead a farmer near Durainangal Village near Batala in Gurdaspur District yesterday afternoon. While fleeing, the terrorists were chased by the security forces and in the encounter which followed both were killed near Bhaironangal village. According to the director general of the state police, both were wanted in a number of terrorist crimes, including the attack on a special police force in Pandori village in Srihargobindpur Police Station in which a local volunteer was killed and a police constable and a home guard seriously injured.

Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Delivers Friday Prayer Sermon

LD1908171088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1307 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Second Friday prayers sermon by Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani at Tehran University on 19 August—recorded]

[Excerpts] We shall devote the second sermon to a description of the predicament of our society in relation to war and peace; our circumstances in the event the war continues, and the situation in which we shall find ourselves in the event we achieve a truce and war's end. In this discussion I shall try to give a brief description of the picture which I have drawn up in my mind.

Certain circumstances arose, and the officials of the Islamic Republic and the honorable leader believed it to be in our interest to accept the resolution and to seriously pursue the question of peace and end the war. We do not think that it is in our interest to explain all the reasons which brought us to this decision because our enemies may take advantage of this. However, a time will come when the details of the things we were thinking about will be explained to our dear nation. In any case, with this decision, and following its announcement and the events that took place, we reached the conclusion in a rational way that what we did was very much the right thing to do and that it will be in the interest of the people of Iran and Iraq—the people of Iran and the region—and, God willing, of all the world of Islam. Again, this can be analyzed and explained at a later stage.

I shall say a word or two before I begin to describe the present situation. Whatever may be the case, those who began this war and fanned the flames of war most certainly failed in all their goals. The warmonger did not gain anything from this war, whether this warmonger was Iraq or other masters. They wanted to topple the Islamic Republic and the Islamic revolution, but they got the opposite results. Today, 8 years after the war's beginning, you can see that almost all the world is rushing to establish relations with the Islamic Republic as an established and important country. Those who were openly at war with us, and were openly assisting Iraq and not hiding their hostility toward us, have today extended their hand to us and are seeking relations. So, if the objective was to destroy the revolution, after 8 years of war things have turned out to the contrary. If the aim was to dismember Iran, then this failed. They wanted to capture Khuzestan or the Shatt al- Arab or the islands of Tumb and Abu Musa or other things. Again, concerning overall goals of the war, anyone who had aims of this type was defeated, was not able to achieve his goals, and returned to that same resolution which he tore up—that Algiers agreement which was torn up formally on television at the start of war. Is defeat anything other than taking action for a purpose and after 8 years returning to the same situation from which one was trying to escape? Perhaps someone will say no, these were not the goals; the goals were to control the Islamic revolution, to prevent it from being exported, and to weaken the revolution. Let us see. The future will tell whether they have succeeded in this goal or not.

What I want to say is no, on the contrary. [as heard] In the first place, the Islamic Republic has not been weakened because if the Islamic Republic had not been dragged into war, it would never have thought of possessing a huge military force of the extent and scale that we have today to support the revolution. In those days, we thought of the Guards Corps as a security force operating in urban areas. And as far as the armed forces were concerned—even to the extent that they existed—we even opposed the previous regime claiming that too much money had been spent on the armed forces they had enlarged. But if there had been no war then, at most, the same armed forces would have existed although slightly purged. But today, the military force of the Islamic Republic is, justifiably, great. It has no rival in all the region in scale, depth, experience, or ideology. There is no country in the region which can build a military force which enjoys the qualities possessed by our popular and combat forces now. I am thinking especially of the creation of the 5 million-strong mobilization forces, which means that today, millions of our youth and people are combat-experienced and trained for battle. We have a combatant ready to take up defense in every street, in every house—in most houses. [crowd chants slogans]

If this war had not occured, we would have relied on the weapons we had obtained from the United States and some Western and Eastern countries. We would have been totally dependent on them. Today, the Islamic Republic is almost totally self-sufficient regarding its defense facilities. It can manufacture nearly all the kinds of munitions necessary for war. Of course, because consumption was very high during the war, we purchased from other places as well. However, we now have the capacity to manufacture all the munitions war requires and also many of the weapons of war. One example is the Mushak missile which have recently been manufactured by the Guards Corps, the Army, and also by Reconstruction Jihad. In other words, there are three military research projects finalized with the capacity to manufacture three varieties of ground-to-ground missiles.

Our military power, that is, our military industries, which we established during the war—which we were forced to establish—was significant, and I have no doubt that in the future, among Third World countries and its peoples, Iran will be one of the centers for weapons, armaments, and military industries. In the past, this was a monopoly of Eastern and Western arrogance. Today, another place has been established which can help people in military techniques, military training, and also in armaments. If their aim was to weaken the revolution, they have undoubtedly failed, because we are definitely a hundred times, hundreds of times, stronger than the day the war began. They know it. Everyone knows it. If their aim was to inflict an economic blow, they were successful to some extent—but only if the matter was to end here. Yes, we sustained a considerable amount of damage during the war. Of course, our enemy sustained more damage, because, now that the war is possibly coming to an end, Iraq is facing nearly $100 billion of debt, while the Islamic Republic is in the position it was on the war's first day.

We also used fewer resources than we would have done during peace. In other words, if during peacetime we produced 3.5 million barrels of oil per day, during the war we produced an average of 2.5 million barrels, for example. Because of the limitations on our export of oil, and because of damage to our oil industries, we were not able to fully use our resources. Therefore, our reserves are now greater than when the war began. That is to say, we are in a better situation. Therefore, from the point of view of economic conditions, our resources and reserves remain unharmed, whereas our enemy, because of the costly war it waged, has become afflicted by amazing expenses.

We do not want this to happen to Iraq, because they [resources and reserves] belong to the Iraqi nation. However, they did it themselves, they brought themselves to that state. If their aim was to weaken us economically, yes, many of our industries came to a standstill during these 8 years. Much of our production was not at an ideal level, and the effort we expended for the war could have been expended for construction. However, from the results we will obtain from the war, and which we have obtained, we will—God willing—manage to make up for that blow in the future. The maturity our people attained regarding their morale has made the people like tempered steel, and they have developed the capacity to resist any pressure. This alone can recover any loss. [crowd chants support]

They may say that they wanted to prevent the revolution's export, but we have done that. We do not accept that. First, the revolution is not just one moment in time. If the Islamic Republic is inclined toward exporting revolution, it can do it from now on. They had the idea that we wanted to export the revolution through war, through the occupation of a country, and with military strength. If that was what they were thinking, they made a mistake. We do not even consider such a thing to be a revolution. If an idea is imposed through a coup d'etat, or with the occupation of territory, that is not a victory. That would be like Yazid's victory [Caliph Yazid's victory against Imam Husayn]

Victory is the penetration of the idea of revolution among worthy nations and people. The war has expedited that. The whole world knows that the Islamic Republic—alone for 8 years, on the basis of its own strength, in the face of the power of Eastern arrogance, which shamelessly armed Iraq; in the face of the power of Western arrogance, which, at the height of shamelessness, equipped Iraq with arms, equipment, facilities, chemicals and laser bombs [as heard], which France provided; and in the face of the strength of arrogance, which would use oceans of oil to financially assist Iraq; and in the face of the tremendous attack of imperialist news and propaganda—fought alone with innocence and with wisdom. That is something the world understands.

If the power of the Islamic Republic reveals its splendor in the world, what will be revealed is that under the conditions in which we fought Iraq on the fronts with all our facilities, we were not prepared to pay extortion money to the Soviet Union, to retreat by one step over Afghanistan. We were never prepared to bargain over our aims or over the ideals of our revolution. That is how revolution is exported.

Today, there are millions, tens of millions, hundreds of millions of people in the world who are thinking about how this revolution managed to resist to such an extent. If you were afraid 8 years ago, nothing has changed. Our people are more revolutionary today than they were 8 years ago. Our thoughts are more mature today than they were 8 years ago. Our leadership is more experienced today than it was 8 years ago, and our structure is stronger. The bases of the revolution are still in place. The ideals of revolution have been strengthened, not weakened. However, we said then that we do not want to export revolution by force. We still say it today, but we will always present our ideas, and our ideas have listeners today.

Those who shunned us 8 years ago today beg us to introduce one of our main figures to speak to them. Therefore, you may think you have prevented the export of the revolution in the way we wished to export it, but you have not done so. The revolution continues on its path. At the moment, we are facing improved conditions. If you believed that we wished to export the revolution by force, you were mistaken. Do not repeat this mistake in the future. We never thought that the revolution could be exported through force. We are the followers of the ideology of Imam Husayn, and in my first sermon I described how Imam Husayn exported his ideas. You are not aware that you have paved the way for the export of the revolution with your actions over the past 2 or 3 weeks. Those events make one believe they are due to God's guidance.

Some people ask: Would it not have been better if we had accepted the resolution a year earlier? From one point of view, yes, it would have been better. When we were in Al-Faw and in Shalamcheh at the time the resolution was issued, our national pride, the pride of our people and our fighters, told us that we were victorious and that we had to accept the resolution from a position of strength. This is something which is very important for young people and for those who attach too much importance to such things. However, if we look at the matter from Imam Husayn's point of view, and if we discuss it in that context, we have been able to prove certain things which we would not have been able to prove then. For 8 years they kept saying that we are aggressive, warmongers, obstinate, do not wish peace. We kept telling them that they were lying— Iraq did not desire peace. You do not wish peace, you are aggressive; this was the nature of the claims. If the world proved that Iran was peace-loving, we were the winners; but if it was proven that Iraq was peace-loving, Iraq would be the winner.

Iran's acceptance of the cease-fire took place at a time when Iraq wrongly and falsely believed it was in a position of strength and was tempted to make use of this opportunity. You noticed that after our acceptance, it moved, came inside our territory to occupy our land. This action proved a few things. The first proved that this nation is very powerful. As soon as this nation felt that the enemy was entertaining the idea of serious aggression against our territory and wished to launch a new aggression, it rushed to the fronts in a way which could not believed by anyone, whether friend or foe. Hundreds of thousands of people rushed to the fronts. As it was said by one of the Basij officials, 130,000 persons rushed to the fronts in only 2 or 3 days. Hundreds of thousands of people are not still giving up. [passage omitted]

The volunteers showed their strength at the battlefronts. They delivered a blow to Iraq's mouth and speedily kicked the Iraqis out of the places they had captured after accepting the resolution. Meanwhile, the big mistake committed by Iraq and by world arrogance was to bring their agents the Mojahedin—which they had trained for 10 years, who were also supported by the Kurdish counterrevolutionaries and others—deep inside our territory with Iraqi tanks, guns, and helicopters. They inflicted a great calamity upon those wretched people in the area. They brought the results of their 10 years of effort and all the efforts they had made even before the revolution. They brought all of them and placed them inside our net, and they were scattered in the deserts between Eslamabad, Bakhtaran, and Karand. Even a few weeks after, we are still collecting stinking corpses from among trees, the forests, and villages. Our volunteers destroyed this cancer of the revolution, this nuisance, with their own hands due to their pride and Iraq's mistake. It had pinned a great deal of hope on them. World arrogance also believed it could use them for a long time in order to weaken the revolution and to create a nuisance for it. Of course, there are a few remnants of them, but after the blow which was delivered at them, it will take them a long time to reform.

As for the people, the event which happened, the [2 August march] expression of allegaince [to Khomeyni] by the people showed that the enthusiasm of the time when his holiness the imam arrived in Tehran from Paris still exists among the people—10 years after the revolution, and 8 years after the war. [crowd shouts "God is great" and "Khomeyni is the leader"] [passage omitted]

Our nation demonstrated that it is prepared for war as well as for peace.

We are now at a crossroads. The world knows that very well. We know it very well ourselves, because we are in the field. The two roads we have before us are both good. Of course, just as the imam said, we are pursuing the path of peace, not the path of war. We now have a considerable number of forces at the fronts, very many of them; it may be that in the course of the war it rarely happened that we had so many forces prepared for battle in the field. Iraq recently embarked on a limited act of mischief. Those at the front asked for permission to send a strong reply deep into Iraqi territory. We asked the imam. We asked the imam to allow us to give them such a reply. The imam said: No, when we were fighting, we said so openly. Now, too, when we say peace, we are serious about peace. Reply just to the extent of their mischief. His grace did not give permission for an extensive offensive.

I am saying this so that the Iraqis will understand, so that others will understand that when we say peace, we are not talking deceitfully, as they do. We are serious. We follow the imam, and we follow the interests of Islam. That is our interest now. That is how we judge it.

We are now at a crossroads. The road we are pursuing, which we are organizing, is the path of peace. But, at the same time, I do not think that the path of war will not occur [as heard], since, on the basis of those same reasons, which still exist, for which they imposed the war on us, they may still have reasons for continuing the war. If the war continues, our situation for facing war is many times better than before. Our nation will know very clearly that it has no path other than war. That was not the case in the past. In the past, many people may have thought: Let us go and make peace, let us end the matter. Today, if Iraq wants to continue the war, our nation will uniformly understand.

No longer will the world say that Iran wants war. No one will be able to suggest: Let us negotiate, let us boycott [preceding word in English] Iran, let us impose an arms embargo. If they do that, they must do it against Iraq. Of course, they will not do that. However, if they want to, they will have to do it. World propaganda will not be against us. Our nation will be serious in its resolve. It will know that if it does not inflict a blow, it will sustain a blow. Therefore, the war will continue with greater depth, more seriously, on a greater scale, and with greater strength, if our enemy wants to continue the war. [crowd chants support]

Of course, we do not want that at the moment. Please-....[crowd interrupts, chants in support of Khomeyni] That is right. You and your children have proven it, and the imam, too, knows it; the entire world knows that the those of the Iranian nation are uniformly the soldiers of his eminence the imam and await his orders. We will not pursue such a course, but if the need arises, we are prepared. The stronger and greater possibility is that we will attain peace. We want to attain real peace. If we attain peace, we are serious about wanting the region to become truly peaceful, with no arms race, with the world's arms-manufacturing cartels not plundering the sources of the region's wealth on the basis of the threat of war. God willing, it will be a lasting and real peace.

At the time of the war's continuation we said that we should burn corruption at its roots so that we could have a lasting peace. We were after a lasting peace through that means. Now we are pursuing it through this method. We will have certain problems. I made my introductory remarks in this sermon so that I could reach this point—if there is peace, what is our program? It is natural that one of the issues that occurs to everyone is the issue of reconstruction, construction after the war. During these 8 years, we did not have the level of success with respect to services and construction that we would have had if there had not been a war. We must travel that path.

We will have certain problems because the damage inflicted on the country through war, the cities which have been destroyed, the roads which have been damaged, the bridges, factories, ports which have been damaged, must be reconstructed. Our armed forces must reach a level suitable for protecting the revolution so that no one will dare attack us. Our military industries must have priority, so that we can be strong on the basis of our own capacity rather than being dependent on purchases from others. Even the rebuilding of weapons we have purchased must be done so that we are self-reliant. In war it is not possible to rely on others. We must stand on our own feet.

With respect to the matter of reconstruction and methods of reconstruction, what can be seen in our society now, even among our officials, our managers, and those in the field, are three viewpoints: One stands far to one side, another far to the other side, and one is moderate. Even if no one actually is as I am describing him, it is theoretically a possibility. In other words, three viewpoints may occur. The fact is that many suggestions are being made to us from throughout the world, industrial countries such as Japan, Germany, France, others; Eastern countries, Western countries, neighbors; everyone is willing to to take part in our country's reconstruction. That is a reality. What their viewpoints are, what their aims are, we will study later.

Sources for credit, loans, investment will be suggested on a vast scale. From the technical point of view, too, leading companies throughout the world are prepared to undertake the difficult tasks in Iran which need high-level technology. That is the situation.

Some people may imagine that this is in our interest to open the gates of the country; as many people endured hardship for 10 years, whatever is needed in the country—consumer goods, luxuries or otherwise—should be provided so that the people's thirst is quenched; so that the markets are filled; other things, too, in the same way. That may be one viewpoint.

Another viewpoint is the opposite. That, too, exists. It says: no, we must continue the path of abstinence that was imposed on us by war. The people are used to abstinence, to rationing, to shortages. Let us ask of them that abstinence for a little while longer so that we may first strengthen the bases of our economy, organize the major industries, rebuild our infrastructure—roads, railways, bridges, ports, factories. When we reach that point, then the people will live in comfort from within, without dependence. That is another viewpoint.

Another more moderate view can also be seen, which says: We do not need to open the gates in that way, making the country dependent and a consumer, and we do not need to make the people continue to endure abstinence and shortage so that they are even short of basic goods. Let us take the middle road. It seems that the government and the Majlis want that road.

The Planning and Budget Committee is making plans in the Majlis. Government specialists are also making plans. They are determining the priorities to see what facilities we should absorb and how much we should use. They are discussing our monetary, industrial, and economic policy and the level of comfort and control, in general. Of course, we are not sure we will reach peace; we may do so. If we do, which is very likely, we should prepare ourselves for that moment. This we are doing.

We have certain priorities. For example, the first thing we should do is review the damaged areas, those cities whose inhabitants left for 8 years. Damaged industries which were invested in but are now inactive because they were damaged should be made ready, but with less borrowing. There are several important projects which the government terms important revolutionary projects. With little foreign currency to help, they will be made productive. There is a great deal invested in them. [passage omitted]

There is a group of Iraqi people in our society now: A considerable number of Iraqis are in Iran. A number of them returned to Iran years ago, because they have Iranian roots. They also had their properties confiscated. A group sought asylum in Iran because life had become unbearable for them in Iraq. Another group came as combatants, joined our combatants, and went on jihad alongside our combatants. Their number is considerable. They must consider Iran their homeland, like Iraq. [crowd chants] If the war continues, their situation remains as in the past. If there is peace, we should first try to ensure the safety, according to international law, of those wishing to return to Iraq. If they are not safe in Iraq, this is their home. Our nation should receive the Iraqi brothers and sisters who are among us, as Iranians. [passage omited]

In jihad and peace, we follow the imam. We have fought for Islam and we shall make peace for Islam. Whatever the leader wants, we want. [crowd chants] [passage omitted]

Reportage on Implementation of Cease-Fire

UN Observers Arrive

LD1908110188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] A 25-member team of unarmed UN observers arrived last night in Dezful to observe the implementation of cease-fire between Iran and Iraq. According to the Central News Unit, the UN observers, after inspecting the front lines today, are due to take up positions as a buffer between the forces of Iran and Iraq. The observers will use bases designated for this purpose.

Navy To Inspect Ships

LD1908164988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The commander of the Iranian Navy announced: On the basis of international regulations, Iran will exercise its right to inspect ships during the cease-fire period until complete peace is achieved.

In an interview with an IRNA correspondent regarding Iran's legal rights in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz and its method of exercising these after the cease-fire, Commodore Malekzadegan said: On the basis of international laws and regulations, during the cease-fire, until complete peace is achieved, we will maintain security in the Persian Gulf for neutral countries, in accordance with the 1950 Maritime-Land Convention, and we shall continue to exercise our right to inspect ships.

UN Troops Deployed

LD1908165788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] According to an AP report, UN authorities announced: More than 100 UN forces have been stationed on the Iraqi border to supervise the cease-fire between Iran and Iraq.

The authorities said: The stationing of these forces took place peacefully. It is expected that, from the start of the cease-fire, at 0630 tomorrow, Saturday, they will be able to carry out their duties.

Cease-Fire in Effect

LD2008053488 Tehran IRNA in English 0530 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 20, IRNA—Cease-fire between Iraq and Iran went into force at 06:30 local time Saturday along 1,200 kilometer-long borders of the two countries with UN observers 'UNIIMOG' [UN Iran-Iraq Military Observers Group] stationed on both sides of borders. The development is the first step towards a peace agreement between Iraq and Iran.

A 350-strong UN force is to oversee the cease-fire and will immediately radio violations to the UN headquarters in New York.

Commentary on Implications

NC2008054188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group]

[Text] Following a previous announcement, the official cease-fire took effect along the entire Iran-Iraq border 1 hour ago. Except for the Iraqi regime's chemical attack on Oshnoviyeh and some aerial aggressions, a cease-fire has practically been established along the borders for some time now. However, effective today, any military act will be considered a breach of the law.

Undoubtedly, today is a special day in the history of Iran and in the history of the Islamic revolution. Today marks a new chapter in the Islamic revolution's history. However, as the acceptance of the resolution did not mean an end to the war, so the establishment of a cease-fire also does not finalize the issue of the war.

The direct talks that are to begin on Thursday in Geneva at the foreign ministerial level and under the supervision of the UN secretary general will be extemely sensitive talks. They will be held in implementation of part of the resolution, that is, Article Four. The exchange of prisoners of war, the formation of a committee to determine responsibility for the war, the payment of compensation, and the guarantee of regional security are among the other sensitive points of the resolution, the implementation of which will be contingent upon domestic and international coordination and clear-sightedness in the continuation of the talks.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi regime—after 8 years of war, which it sparked itself and in which it wasted its own material and human resources—is using tattered policies in an attempt to distract public opinion inside Iraq. One day it states that direct talks are a condition for the implementation of the resolution while on another day it tries to affect the resolution's implementation by uselessly propounding the issue of the Arvand River, the fate of which was determined in the 1975 Algiers pact. However, there is no doubt that such acts are primarily aimed at domestic consumption and have no luster at the international level. The Iraqi people will take their popular and decisive step one day in order to receive answers to their numerous questions on why the Baghdad leaders started the war.

Nevertheless, the enemy should not be underestimated. Since the victory of the Islamic revolution and, especially, since the imposed war began, there has been no doubt that our enemy is not solely the Iraqi regime. Rather, we are confronting several enemies, each of which tried to resort to various methods of inflicting blows on the revolution and the people and forcing them to surrender. The landing of the U.S. troops in Tabas, the Nowzheh coup [as heard], the strengthening of isolated liberal factions, the war of cities, the attack on ships and the crisis in the Persian Gulf, the war of embassies, the attack on civilian planes, the weakening of the economic structure, and the efforts aimed at Iran's political isolation were only some of the plots which these enemies hatched against the Islamic revolution and the people. Obviously, the fact that a cease-fire is being established effective today and that the 8 years of imposed war are ending should not, in any way, be interpreted as the end of the enemies' plots and the end of our people's struggles against them.

We can now speak of the post-war phase. The imposed war and the way it is ending will definitely have overt and covert results which will surface sooner or later. In the post-war phase, it may be necessary to once again carefully study policies so that we can progress fully prepared, with complete programs, and with precise plans in the economic, political, and social fields. Obviously, as long as we have our eyes turned to the clear principles of the Islamic revolution, and as long as the people are ready to make sacrifices and to suffer difficulties for the sake of these principles, the enemies of the revolution will not sit idly by. Now that there is no war, they will, instead, try to hatch new plots in the future through other channels such as economic, political, and cultural pressures.

We should remain alert. The Muslim people of our country, who have offered everything they had to the revolution, think of defending the Islamic revolution before thinking of anything else and before thinking of how to gain an easy life.

Khamene'i on Observance

LD2008110288 Tehran IRNA in English 1057 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Aug. 20, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i said at a military area near here today that Iran will fully observe the cease-fire, and that it will sincerely cooperate with the UN observer forces.

The president said that the Iraqi ruler Saddam had earlier dreamed of dismembering Iran by embroiling it with a war but that his schemes had backfired and left his country depleted with huge foreign debts. He repeated that in contrast Iran now stands as it was.

Canadian Signalers Arrive

LD2008113588 Tehran IRNA in English 1045 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Bakhtaran, Aug. 20, IRNA—A group of 23 United Nations military experts arrived here at 06:30 (03:00 GMT) today and joined 20 of their counterparts stationed in their assigned headquarters on the Iran-Iraq border in this western province Friday night.

The two groups are to observe implementation of cease-fire between Iran-Iraq border in this western province Friday night.

The two groups are to observe implementation of cease-fire between Iran and Iraq within the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG), in two bases and several roving teams.

Meanwhile, 68 personnel of Canadian signalers, responsible for UNIIMOG communications arrived here today, bringing the number to 118.

Some 280 UNIIMOG forces have arrived here over the past few days to implement cease-fire between Iraq and Iran within the framework of the Security Council's Resolution 598.

Implementation Described

LD2008114488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Report by unidentified correspondent in Abadan]

[Text] Our correspondent in Abadan has sent the following dispatch regarding the official implementation of the cease-fire on the land, sea, and air borders betwen Iran and Iraq:

After 8 years of a war imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran, finally at 0630 today, Saturday, 20 august 1988, a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq on the land, sea, and air borders went into effect on the basis of the first article of UN Resolution 598. A group of unarmed UN observers stationed between the Iranian and Iraqi forces began their mission this morning by coming to the shore of the Arvand River and establishing radio contact with their colleagues on the other side of the border in Iraq. Moments later our forces put a number of boats flying the Iranian tricolor flag into the water and in the presence of observers, moved along the Arvand River opposite Iraqi forces. Thus they displayed their power and readiness to defend the borders of our Islamic homeland.

Currently, total calm reigns on both shores of the river. The point to note on our side of the river is the presence and readiness of the forces of Islam who are in complete readiness, despite the calm, in order to crush and neutralize any possible plots.

Now 8 years after the start of the aggression and the violation of our country's borders by the Iraqi regime, and the official establishment of a cease-fire brought about by UN Resolution 598, it remains to be seen whether Iraq will again resume its adventures to create insecurity like it did on 22 September 1980 when it violated the Agerian accord.

What is certain and repeatedly noted by officials of the country is that despite the cease-fire, continued popular presence at the fronts is a necessity. It should be noted that the Arvand River is a joint border between Iran and Iraq. Both countries had shipping rights in the waterway before the start of the war. Up to 1 day before the imposition of the war on Iran, dozens of large and small ships and motor launches navigated through this vital waterway that leads to the Persian Gulf and to international waters, carrying goods and passengers from the large international ports in Abadan and Khorramshahr to other large ports in the world.

Now that as a result of the cease-fire it seems that this part of our Islamic homeland's border enjoys peace, dredging of the waterway can again make the large port in Khorramshahr operational. This is one of the largest and most important ports for our imports and exports. As a result of this, the large port of Khorramshahr will certainly play a major role again in the commerce of our country and can again play a considerable role in our national economy and help exports.

Commentary on Borders

LD2008142488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1111 GMT 20 Aug 88

[First Political Commentary]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Following the announcement by the UN secretary general of the official start of the cease-fire, on the basis of Article 1 of Resolution 598, the official cease-fire between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq came into force at 0630 today. According to Article 1 of the resolution, all military operations on land, in the air, and at sea will cease and all forces of the two sides will immediately return to accepted international boundaries.

According to the executive plan of the secretary general, supervision of the cease-fire will be the task of the UN forces from various countries. According to Article 1 of the resolution, after the cease-fire takes effect, the two sides should immediately withdraw to the recognized international boundaries. At the moment, according to the documents registered at the UN Secretariat, the only valid agreement for defining the border between Iran and Iraq is the 1975 Algiers agreement. This agreement, which was signed by the Iranian Government of that time and the Iraqi regime, after much discussion, revised some of the earlier border signposts and delineated the two countries' borders decisively and finally. The appendices and protocols attached to that agreement definitively and completely define the two countries' borders on land and at sea. After signing that agreement in Algiers in 1975, both sides continued their discussions and meetings about that agreement's implementation up to 1978. The last of those meetings was the visit of the Iraqi team of experts to Tehran from April to May 1978. But that visit was cut short by the Iraqi officials without any valid explanation.

Therefore, in the view of the Islamic Republic of Iran, there is no ambiguity about returning to recognized international borders; in this connection the basis for action should be the contents of the Algiers Agreement, and the remarks of Iraqi officials can be heeded only within the context of that agreement. According to that agreement, neither side is allowed to unilaterally abrogate the agreement. At the same time, the UN secretary general clearly declared in his discussions with our country's foreign minister that the Algiers Agreement is the only valid agreement for defining the border between the two countries.

The next step which should be taken by the secretary general for the total implementation of Resolution 598, in addition to efforts to exchange POW's on each side, is to form a competent committee which will establish which side was responsible for starting the war. According to Article 6 of Resolution 598, the secretary general is dutybound to form an impartial committee, in consultation with Iran and Iraq, to investigate the issue of responsibility for starting the war. In this connection, according to reports which we have received, today—Saturday—at the same time as the establishment of the cease-fire, the members of the committee to determine the responsible side will be introduced; the two countries are dutybound to present their proofs and evidence to that committee.

It should be pointed out that the committee's behavior will not only be effective in establishing justice and punishing the aggressor; it can also play an effective role in safeguarding world peace and international and regional security. Additionally, in view of the not so brilliant record of the United Nations in connection with the imposed war and the extensive use of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime and its reluctance to openly and effectively condemn the Ba'thist government, the just and honorable solution of the issue of the war and the identification of the aggressor can be a positive step for that international organization's regaining its reputation.

Iraqi Cargo Ship Searched

LD2008154988 Tehran IRNA in English 1537 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 20, IRNA—Iranian naval units during their routine monitoring of shipping traffic in the Persian Gulf, intercepted and searched an Iraqi cargo ship "Khawlah" today, Navy Commander Rear-Admiral Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan announced here.

He said the preliminary inspection of the ship was carried out as usual and in line with international rules observed in the waterway over the past few years.

The empty vessel was sailing toward Persian Gulf from the Oman Sea when it was reconnoitered and searched in the Strait of Hormuz by Iranian naval units supported by helicopters, said the commander. "This is the normal course of action over the past few years concerning all ships which cross the Strait of Hormuz," he stressed.

Malekzadegan said the Iraqi ship continued its journey after inspection by Iranian units.

This was the first instance in 8 years when an Iraqi vessel has ventured through the Strait of Hormuz and follows the cease-fire in the imposed-war, which went into effect as of 06:30 hours local time today.

Iranian Boats Enter Arvand

LD2008181688 Tehran IRNA in English 1738 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Aug. 20, IRNA—On the first day of a cease-fire between Iraq and Iran which went into effect at 03:00 GMT today, a number of Iranian boats flying the Islamic Republic flags, entered the Arvand River Saturday and displayed their combat readiness to protect international borders, in the presence of UNIIMOG observers.

Meanwhile, a number of unarmed U.N. observers stationed along the Iran-Iraq borders, were seen communicating with their colleagues on the Iraqi side by wireless on the first day of their mission.

Calm reportedly prevails on the either side of the Arvand River, but Iran's Muslim combatants are on full alert to check any possible enemy movement.

The Arvand River is the joint border between Iran and Iraq and the two countries had shipping lines in the waterway before Iraq's invasion of Iran on Sept. 22, 1980.

Violation Denied

LD2108052488 Tehran IRNA in English 0518 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 21, IRNA—An Iranian official here Sunday categorically denied Iraq's claim that the Iranian forces have violated cease-fire in Iraq-Iran war which went into force along the 1,200 kms borders Saturday morning.

The official told IRNA that ever since the UN secretary general Javier Perez de Cuellar announced the cease-fire date and called on both Iran and Iraq to show self-restraint, the Muslim forces of Iran have halted all actions at war fronts. "Not even a single bullet has been fired on Iraqi positions," he said.

According to the official as in the early days of cease-fire announcement when Iraq by making pre-conditions was after sabotaging implementation of the UN Resolution 598 it is still after such intentions. By making this kind of excuses, he said, the Baghdad regime is trying to sabotage efforts for execution of the resolution.

Khark Terminal Operational

LD2008124888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] An official of our country has announced that as a result of the official implementation of the cease-fire, the Khark oil terminal resumed normal operations today. In addition, the Islamic Republic of Iran airlines has resumed normal flight routes over the Iranian-Turkish border.

Flights to Ahvaz Resumed

LD2108092988 Tehran IRNA in English 0901 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Aug. 21, IRNA—The Islamic Republic Airlines (Iran Air) resumed its Tehran-Ahvaz flights this morning on the second day of the cease-fire, which went into effect as of 06:30 hrs local time yesterday.

Minister of Roads and Transport Mohammad Seyyed Kya who was on the first Tehran-Ahvaz flight said at the airport here today that the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr railways will also start operations next week.

On the Abadan International Airport, Seyyed Kya said it is being reconstructed and will start operations with the complete enforcement of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598.

Passenger flights to war-stricken areas were cancelled when the Iraqi regime launched its aggression against Iran on 22 September 1980.

On February 20, 1986 Iraqi warplanes showing scant regard for international air traffic rules had shot down an Iranian passenger plane on a flight from Tehran to Ahvaz. The martyrs included Imam Khomeyni's representative to the IRGC Hojjat ol-Eslam Fadlallah Muhalati and several Majlis deputies.

The road and transport minister is on an inspection tour of Khuzestan Province to survey reconstruction being carried out here. The managing directors of Iran Air, of Islamic Republic Railways and of Civil Aviation Organisation are accompanying Kya on his tour.

In 1981 the Iraqi regime had shot down a passenger plane carrying Algerian Foreign Minister Mohammad Ben Yahya to Tehran, near the Iran-Turkey borders.

Seyyed Kya speaking at Ahvaz Airport said that reconstruction of the oil-rich Khuzestan Province is given top priority in the government's programs and that it will be pursued vigorously.

He added that dredging of the Arvand River will start after full enforcement of UN Resolution 598 in accordance with the 1975 Algiers accord. Khorramshahr port will be soon put into operation, he added.

Later today morning, Seyyed Kya left here for Khorramshahr by the first passenger train since the outbreak of the Iraqi imposed war on September 22, 1980.

A group of local officials including Khuzestan Governor General Mohsen Mirdamadi are accompanying the road and transport minister's entourage.

A large section of the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr railway track destroyed during last month's Iraqi aggression on the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr axes (following Iran's acceptance of Resolution 598) was rehabilitated by local railway personnel.

Violation Claimed

LD2108115588 Tehran IRNA in English 1145 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 21, IRNA—Iraqi forces fired ten rounds of small-calibre bullets in Naft-e Shahr area, western fronts, at 10:04 hours local time (06:34 GMT) Saturday in violation of a U.N.-mediated cease-fire which took effect throughout the battlefields as of 06:30 hours (03:00 GMT) yesterday.

The enemy shooting occured in the presence of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG).

Earlier on Saturday, the Baghdad regime had accused Iranian forces of killing one of its soldiers. Iran categorically denied the charge.

Musavi Visits Bakhtaran, Comments on Cease-Fire

NC2108052488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi arrived in Bakhtaran last night, continuing his trip to the western part of the country.

Commenting on the cease-fire after his arrival in Bakhtaran, the prime minister stated that it was established in order to preserve the principle of Islam. Our objective in war or in peace is to keep Islam alive, and there will never be a compromise between Islam and arrogance.

The prime minister stressed: Our people should increase and maintain their alertness in order to preserve the principles of Islam and of the revolution.

The prime minister also stated that the objective behind his visit to Bakhtaran is to meet with the resisting people there and to allow the government the opportunity of becoming acquainted with the region's problems. In addition, he thanked the people of the province for their presence on the scenes of the revolution and war.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Interviewed on Economic Trends

LD2008105788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Interview with Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and acting commander in chief of the Armed Forces, by unidentified correspondent, place not given; interview intercepted in progress—live]

[Text] [Question] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, when we were on our way here, one of the citizens saw us and asked us to put a question to you. Yesterday, you mentioned in the Friday sermon that the world has begun a race to establish relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI]; everyone seeks to have contacts with our powerful country. If some arrogant countries seek to continue to confront our revolution, what (?provisions) have been made to deal with this?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] First of all, this question of the race that I mentioned has to do with the reality pertaining to Iran, the reality pertaining to the people of Iran, and the importance of our country. It is natural for any country that believes that it has to have relations with other importnt countries, to seek out our country as well. There is an important point to which we should pay attention and (?the other parties are also paying attention to this) and that is that the interested countries are not facing an Iran that was like the Iran of the past era—a fallen region, a region of economic and political slavery—if they want to come to us now with this idea in mind we shall turn them away. Iran is now considered to be a serious [word indistinct] international entity; that is, Iran is now a spokesman of the dispossessed of the world and of the Third World. It speaks its mind without being dominated by any government or power. It is as a country like this that we should be talking to anyone who wants to come to talk with us. If they want to establish relations with us, we should establish relations with them on the same basis. They have to forget about landlord-peasant, domination-subjugation relations, economic influences, and the market and other such concepts. If they do, then it is possible to work with many of them. But if they adopt the same exploitative, colonialist approach, it is obvious that we should stand steadfast against this. In matters of government, breaking relations is much better.

[Question] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, yesterday, in the Friday prayer sermons, you pointed to the economic trend in the country and stated that there are currently three trends. You highlighted the moderate economic trend. Could you please tell us more about this and about the responsibilities of the people in the face of the country's economic trends, future reconstructions, and about how the elements of economic corruption can be dealt with in the future?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] You see, our revolution has certain aspirations and just as was mentioned in the first question, we cannot cut ourselves off from these aspirations. Thus, the goals and aspirations of the revolution will never be forgotten in the reconstruction process. In line with the Islamic Republic, independence, freedom, and self-sufficiency is one issue: in the reconstruction process we should pay attention to not becoming dependent. That is another issue, another principle to which we should pay attention. Domestically, naturally, now is the time to adopt certain policies regarding investments and funds which are in the hands of people so that these may be drawn into the field of production. But the principle concerning exploitation, monopoly, and economic influence on the social strata by means of economic levers with which they wish to (?change) the people's way of thinking; that viewpoint which we were after remains. Thus, in this new trend, what would be new in relation to the period of war is that we can now devote more resources than before to economic problems and to the welfare of people. Or, we can derive more from the natural resources of the country and cash them in; or we can place more facilities at the disposal of our people from the relations that we have with the world. If we adopt an extreme method and promote corruption and a consumerist tendency, then obviously we will ultimately end up being dependent, lazy, and living the kind of carefree life of those who belong to affluent families who merely eat and lead an idle life, and our nation will deteriorate.

On the other hand, if we want to tell the people that they should endure abstinence just like during the war, that will be to the disadvantage of the deprived class, because the well-to-do classes will in the end be able to provide for themselves. They buy things at a high price and sell them at a high price. They are able to provide everything with the possibilities that they have.

The deprived class, on the other hand, is conscious of the law, of religion. They do not commit offences. They do not even have the opportunity to commit an offence. Even those who are inclined toward committing offences do not have the opportunity to do so. High prices break their backs. Their children are not able to have an education. Their path of progress is closed. Such policies create thousands of problems for deprived people. The deprived classes bear the brunt of those policies.

We must therefore act so that our people will be able to have an average life, an acceptable life; not at the level of excess, but at a level that gradually improves. We should provide that for the people.

I have some recommendations as well. We have certain priorities now. We have reconstruction; we have our main industries. These are primary tasks. It is natural that issues of comfort are placed at the fourth or fifth level of importance. However, the fundamental tasks are necessary; the people's needs for food and medicine; these are things which we must attend to quickly.

[Question] Yes. Your eminence, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The hoarders, profiteers, and dependent capitalists really hurt the people during the war. If they want to continue doing harm and damage during the time of reconstruction, how will they be dealt with?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] First, they must answer for the things they did during the war and which we did not have the time to assess. Some of them are doing so. Their way of life has changed rapidly, and they are sustaining heavy losses. Naturally, during the time of reconstruction our expectations of the disciplinary and security forces, the judiciary, and the publicity forces is that all of them together must not allow this situation to continue. A healthy situation must be established. We will also say to them that it is to their advantage to have a healthy life. A healthy life may yield a lower income, but the benefit from the income, the result of the income will be better. A healthy environment is good.

God willing, all the factors, the Majlis, the government, the judiciary, the information organization will unite to prevent the bad things which are not appropriate for an Islamic Iran.

[Question] Your eminence, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani. You and the other leaders of the society held the view during the revolutionary struggles, both before victory and after, that the revolution and the movement will meet with defeat, God forbid, when the people leave the scene. In order for the idea that their responsibility has come to an end not take root among the people, they have assumed their role of defense; now the officials must do their work. In order to prevent this idea from taking root, what programs are being considered so that people will remain on the scene? Just now, when we were approaching your eminence, one from the mobilization forces was saying, it is not enough just to speak of using the mobilization forces. This needs a program and further assurances.

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] Obviously, that is one of the revolutionary ideals. In other words, we do not think it possible for a revolution to endure when the people are not involved. That would not even be a revolution. The people must be involved. The mobilization forces were the most useful forces in these difficult times; that is, during the revolution. They have really been the ones with whose assistance all problems have been solved in the Islamic Republic, from the time of the revolution until now.

Obviously, the revolution belongs to them. Of course, we have some ideas about how to—especially those who have been in the war and who have fought for years. [sentence as heard] There are those who have been martyred, who have gone. The ones who remain are the reserves of the revolution. We must have arrangements so that they may find their way to training, technical, and creativity centers and become involved in productive pursuits. Ideas and plans exist. Of course I do not want to go into the details of the matter right now. Obviously the planners are pursuing the matter.

I only want to say to our dear brothers and gracious sisters and to all the people, they should not think that a day will come when the people will not have any duties in the process of the revolution. We must all maintain our selflessness.

At the end of my remarks, I want to say to the dear combatants that we have arrived at the cease-fire today. Maintain your vigilance! Of course, you must be loyal to the pledge of your authorities. There should not be even one case of violation on the fronts, to fire a shot, God forbid, without permisson. Under these conditions, even if one person is brought down without reason, we will be responsible: There will be two responsibilities. One is to act against a pledge, against an oath, against one's duty. The other is the damage inflicted on that person.

But maintain our vigilance! We have not yet arrived at peace. God willing, if we reach that day, we will declare it ourselves.

Aqazadeh Views Oil Industry's Reconstruction

LD2008140788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] On the 1st day of the cease-fire between Iran and Iraq, the port of Ganaveh with its daily export capacity of 2 million barrels of oil began operations. Petroleum Minister Aqazadeh described at a press conference today his ministry's programs for exporting oil and its derivatives and the plans to reconstruct and put into operation the ministry's refineries and other installations. He referred to the start of operations at Ganaveh, saying: The port of Ganaveh officially began operations today as the first tanker docked. Currently the port has a daily export capacity of 2 million barrels of oil, which can be increased in the future. He added: With the implementation of the cease-fire, various projects will resume, and the reconstruction and modernization of some sectors of the oil, gas, and petrochemical industries will begin as rapidly as possible using domestic and some foreign experts in some areas.

The petroleum minister stressed that the cabinet has given priority to the industry's reconstruction to achieve a fundamental change in export and to generate foreign reserves for the country. Noting that the Abadan refinery has greatly suffered during the imposed war, Mr Aqazadeh said: Because of its symbolic nature, the Abadan refinery will not only be reconstructed but will also be modernized. He explained that the refinery will be modernized in three stages to become one of the most modern refineries in the world.

Regarding the reconstruction of the joint Iranian- Japanese petrochemical complex, the oil minister said: Iran's policy in this respect is to continue work to finish the projects, and we would like the participating Japanese companies to continue the work. He added that activities in all sectors of the oil, gas, and petrochemical industries will be coordinated, and that none of the domestic projects and plans will be affected by the reconstruction. He noted: Work on constructing a refinery in Bandar-e 'Abbas, a petrochemical complex in Arak, a domestic gas network, an oil pipeline to the Gulf of Oman, oil exploration and production in the Caspian Sea, and other projects will continue alongside the reconstruction work.

He added that extensive work in oil exploration is in progress and that predictions show that some 15 billion barrels will be added to the Iranian reserves. Referring to the the Moharram project, the plan to construct an oil pipeline taking oil outside the Persian Gulf, Mr Aqazadeh said: The first phase of the plan which joins Gurreh pumping station to Taheri port will be finished early next year, and the second phase, Taherigat, will last until 1990. Noting that the daily capacity of the pipeline will be 1 million barrels, he said: Preparation and infrastructure work for a second line will be carried out in parallel so that it will go into operation if needed.

The petroleum minister explained that no changes are planned for the Iranian tanker fleet, and that the fleet, which in tonnage and capacity enjoys third place in the world, will become active internationally to become a source of revenue.

On the marketing policy for Iranian oil sales, he said: Other than the United States, South Africa, and the regime occupying Jerusalem, we will sell oil to any country that wants to buy it.

Khamene'i Continues Southern Inspection Tour

LD1908130788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] This morning President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, on a tour of the battlefronts, inspected various units from several independent brigades of a special corps of the IRGC ground forces in one of the southern operational axes. During his 5-hour visit, the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council inspected various units of the independent antiair, artillery, and armored brigades. He also inspected dozens of tanks, personnel- carriers, armored vehicles, heavy batteries, and air-defense units which were all captured from the enemy. He attended a gathering of the self-sacrificing, combative, blasphemy-smashers, and he expressed appreciation for the sincere struggle and valuable services and efforts of the personnel of these brigades throughout the imposed war. The president inspected a training complex belonging to this corps' combatants. The complex provides elementary education for illiterates, as well as secondary education and teachers' training. He delivered guidance on how to increase the level of teaching and training even more on the fronts.

Today Mr Khamene'i also attended a gathering of thousands of selfless combatants of this corps. During his remarks, he again warned international forums that they should take seriously the issue of forming an impartial committee to identify the aggressor and initiator of the war. The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council stressed: We are standing behind this matter with all our might, and if the enemy does not submit to justice, we shall persist.

The president continued: Some of the world's presidents knew about the Iraqi regime's attack on the Islamic Republic of Iran and tried to prevent it. Khamene'i called for combat forces to continue at the fronts, saying: Just as in the era of the 8-year war when Iran became known in the world as a proud, brave, and justice-seeking nation, now too should Iran be identified by the world as an intelligent, resolute, and alert nation.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council also stressed that young people should endeavor to maintain their alertness to identify the stratagems and tricks of the enemy. He pointed to the importance of the people's unity and solidarity under the present conditions and said: It is necessary to preserve readiness in all fields and to obey the orders of the leadership to confront global arrogance which is fighting against our independence, integrity, and religion—one day by means of Saddam and another by making use of its other puppets.

Mr Khamene'i then called on the brave and combative youth not to be totally absorbed in society and to help each other to promote their spiritual needs. He also called on them to follow up their defense of religion under the hardest of conditions with decisive determination and a martyrdom-seeking spirit.

Musavi Visits Ilam, Warns Against 'Enemy Plots'

LD2008165788 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Ilam, Aug 20, IRNA—Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi today said the end of the war with Iraq does not mean the end of enemy plots and called on Iranian people to safeguard the principles of the Islamic revolution and fight the psychological warfare underway against Islamic Iran.

Musavi, currently here on an inspection tour of this Western border province, also urged Iran's Muslim people to step up their campaign against the corrupt Western culture even after the war.

The premier underlined the significance of the post-war reconstruction era in Iran, saying that this is not less important than the war issue.

However, he warned people neither to neglect plots hatched by arrogant powers against the Islamic Republic nor consider the declaration of ceasefire in the Iraqi-imposed war as the end of such schemes. Any negligence will be detrimental to the country, he said.

The inflow of foreign investments in a way the superpowers wish will not be in the interest of the country but on the contrary will lead to the suppression of the revolution's principles, Musavi cautioned.

On the reconstruction of war-damaged cities including Ilam, Premier Musavi said the government intends to make use of the tremendous power of people, who he said have played a key role in administrating the country's internal affairs and in rebuilding the war-stricken areas.

Prime Minister Musavi, stressing that Iranian people by adhering to their Islamic principles, have overcome all hardships, said "our resistance has not ended and we should continue our efforts to take the next difficult steps."

After his speech, the premier toured ruins of buildings and other places destroyed in 107 Iraqi air attacks on the city since 1980.

Comments on IRGC

LD2108173688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Text] Continuing his tour of Bakhtaran Province, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi gave a press conference this morning in which he outlined the economic policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] following its acceptance of Resolution 598. He said: We will remain active in all aspects on the basis of justice and nonalignment. The government will concentrate all its efforts on reconstructing the country and establishing a healthy economic system through fundamental and correct planning.

He noted: We view with suspicion all countries that yesterday were our enemies and today allegedly are concerned for the revolution and supposedly are supporting us. They are using the pretext of reconstructing our national economic infrastructure in order to make us dependant.

He then noted the plots of the United States and its cronies during the lengthy war imposed against the Islamic revolution. He said: The satanic U.S. policies are not such as can be forgotten, particularly the recent attack by the arch-Satan against an Iranian passenger airliner, which caused the martyrdom of a group of innocent individuals.

Responding to a question concerning the recent rumors about the dissolution of parts of the Armed Forces, including the IRGC, Mr Musavi said: All such rumors are completely denied, since the imam of the ummah has declared that without the corps, there is no country. Musavi stressed: Strengthening the Armed Forces and the organizational contacts between the Army and the IRGC are among Iran's important goals, which you will witness in the future.

Velayti, Delegation Depart for Ziaul Haq Funeral

LD1908175888 Tehran IRNA in English
1708 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 19, IRNA—A high-ranking delegation left here for Islamabad on Friday to take part in the funerals of the late Pakistani president Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

The delegation comprises high Presidential Advisor Mustafa Mir- Salim, Deputy Premier for Political Affairs 'Ali-Reza Mo'ayeri, and Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Velayati Holds Talks

LD2008172988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Foreign Minister Velayati, after attending today's funeral of General Ziaul Haq, met and conferred with Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the temporary president, and Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Pakistan's foreign minister. During the meeting, after conveying a message of condolences from President Khamene'i, our country's foreign minister discussed issues of interest to the two countries.

According to the report, Mr Velayati also met and conferred with Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwean president and leader of the Nonaligned Movement; FRG Foreign Minister Genscher; Turkish Premier Turgut Ozal; the UAE minister of state for foreign affairs; the Chinese deputy premier; the Sri Lankan foreign minister; and the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization.

Returns, Views Ties

LD2008213488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
2030 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati returned to Tehran tonight, after attending the funeral of General Ziaul Haq, the late president of Pakistan.

In an interview with correspondents regarding future relations between Iran and Pakistan, he said: Relations between Iran and Pakistan are extremely friendly and brotherly, and will continue to be so in every aspect. There are many common demonimators between the two nations which necessitate this friendship and fraternity, common denominators such as religion, language, history, and customs, which bring the two nations very close to each other.

Referring to the dignity of the Pakistani people in dealing with the incident [as heard], he said: The people and government are determined to take the country strongly forward. Elections will be held on the date set by Mr Ziaul Haq.

U.S. Responsibility for Downing Plane Viewed

LD2008134488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1116 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Second political commentary]

[Text] Forty days after the painful tragedy of the downing of the Iranian passenger aircraft by the Vincennes warship, the U.S. Ministry of War disclosed the investigations that have been carried out and announced that the crew of the U.S. warship caused the downing of the Iranian passenger aircraft due to the mistakes they made. In connection with this, in the press conference given by Carlucci, the U.S. war minister, together with William Crowe, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, this deliberate action by the U.S. warship which resulted in the martyrdom of 290 innocent people has been termed a human error, and they stated that no disciplinary measures will be taken against the offenders.

The U.S. officials who, from the start of this horrifying and deliberate crime of the Vincennes warship, tried to use contradictory statements and to create the appropriate climate to portray this as a self-defense move, at first gave the impression that the aircraft in question was an Iranian F-14 fighter that it was in the process of descending in the warship's direction in a threatening manner. At first, this was done to legitimize the action of the warship in question and to influence international public opinion. Yet, after this crime, stage by stage, aspects of the horrifying realities of the downing of the Iranian passenger aircraft by those in power in the United States came to light. Realities have proven the deliberate criminal action of the United States. The ascent of the aircraft in question and the fact that it was flying within the set international corridor, and furthermore, the fact that the Iranian aircraft was in the process of ascending, all prove that the action taken by the Vincennes was not only a mistake but was premeditated and took place with the permission of U.S. officials. In the same connection, reports indicate that the U.S. warship got in touch with the U.S. Ministry of War before embarking on its crime and following that, it fired two missiles in the direction of the passenger aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The unjustifiable move by the U.S. warship which has been portrayed in the propaganda activities of U.S. officials as a human error, demonstrates more than ever the truth that the claims of U.S. officials in connection with the rights of people are nothing more than a trick and that the issue of human rights has been and is closely tied to their own interests. In this case a warship that was built for battle in the ocean is brought to the Persian Gulf region as a demonstration of hostility; and as a consequence, it causes the martyrdom of 290 innocent human beings.

What is evident is the fact that in U.S. diplomatic language, the criminal actions of self-defense [as heard] and massacres and killings are termed carrying out one's responsibilities. In any case, now that the investigative committee of the U.S. War Ministry has officially admitted to this crime, attention should be paid to the legal commitments of the United States with regard to this incident. Commitments like these can never be compared with the lives of innocent and helpless human beings.

Now more than ever before, with the acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 598 by the Islamic Republic of Iran, the presence of foreign warships in the Persian Gulf region is being questioned and the truth of the matter is that the world community must react to the presence of these warships in order to prevent tragedies such as this.

Red Crescent Announces POW Names

LD2008171688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Vahid Dastjerdi, Red Crescent director and secretary general, spoke this morning at a press conference and announced that the names of 5,000 Iranian POW's captured by the Iraqi regime during the current year have been put at the disposal of the Iranian Red Crescent. He added: The relatives of POW's captured by the enemy this year can go to the Red Crescent building in Dr Shari'ati Street, opposite the Iranian Telecommunication Company, from 0700-1900 to receive information about their loved ones. He added: The names of POW's and their provinces have been put at the disposal of Red Crescent centers in various towns. There is no need for their relatives to go to Tehran to receive these details.

Montazeri Message on Lebanese Clergyman's Death

LD1908113588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The office of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri has sent a telegram expressing congratulations and condolences to the comitted ulema and clergymen and to members of the Council of Lebanon's Hizballah on the occasion of the martyrdom of the committed scholar and mujahid clergyman, the late Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Shaykh 'Ali Kurayyim, sanctified be his dust.

The telegram says: Without doubt the espionage and terrorist networks of the Zionists and Americans embark on these kinds of crimes in order to deliver blows to the region's blossoming Islamic movement. The telegram further states: The Zionists who have bitter memories of the united voice of the militant ulema and Hizballah and the brave and mujahid Shi'ite and Sunni youth of Lebanon, are trying with all their might to turn this sincerity and unity into factionalism and civil war among the ranks of the Islamic fighters and mujahidin, so that they may put into practice, with ease of mind, their colonialist and antireligion goals and rout the militants and mujahidin of whichever faction and group they may belong to. But, you honorable and alert scholars and clergymen of Lebanon will surely not allow this black conspiracy of America and Israel and of their lackeys in the region to take shape.

Mojahedin-e Khalq Appeals for End to Executions

JN2008083688 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Aug 88 p 5

[By staff reporter]

[Text] Amman—The Iranian dissident organisation, Mojahedin-e Khalq, has renewed an appeal to the international community to put an end to what it describes as mass execution of its activists and sympathisers by the Tehran government.

In telegrams addressed to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the leaders of the five permanent member states of the Security Council, Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the Mojahedin, referred to the "new wave of mass executions by the Khomeyni regime and the declaration of the regime's chief justice that no trials would be necessary for the execution of Mojahedin prisoners."

"Peace and the human and political rights of the Iranian people are inseparable," he said.

A copy of the telgram telexed from the Mojahedin headquarters in Baghdad to the JORDAN TIMES said that most of those slain had spent years in prison.

But it also noted that hundreds of civilians in western Iranian cities have been publicly hanged for supporting rebel forces who pushed into the region from bases in Iraq last month in a major offensive.

There was no way to independently confirm the claim, which the opposition group said was based on "reliable reports from Iran."

But the FINANCIAL TIMES of London reported from Tehran Wednesday that authorities had been carrying out "systematic executions of left-wing prisoners... since April."

Rajavi's appeal said: "A lasting peace in the Gulf war is also the ultimate aspiration of the Iranian resistance, which was relentlessly campaigned for it for eight years. Now if a lasting peace is the goal, then it can in no way be achieved, as Khomeyni's religious tryanny would want it, by sacrificing the Iranian resistance or separating peace from the fundamential rights of the Iranian people."

According to Rajavi, "The unexplained and secretly-guarded reason for the Khomeyni regime's acceptance of Resolution 598 is that the Khomeyni regime simply perceived the prospects of its inevitable collapse. Khomeyni clearly sensed the urgent threat to his religious, medieval dictatorship in its entirety.

"It was the prospects of inevitable overthrow, looming larger before this illegitimate regime because of the victories achieved by the Iranian resistance and the National Liberation Army [NLA] of Iran in the past few months that forced Khomeyni to swallow, in his own words, the 'deadly poison' of peace."

The FINANCIAL TIMES' correspondent, Edward Mortimer, said Wednesday the pace of executions accelerated after the Mojahedin pushed into western Iran following Tehran's acceptance of Resolution 598.

Mortimer reported that families of the executed prisoners have in recent days jammed Tehran's sprawling Behesht Zahra cemetery where the slain were buried in special plots. He said 58 bodies were buried there between July 27 and Aug. 10.

Some Iranian leaders, including Chief Justice Musavi-Ardabili, have publicly called for executing Mojahedin prisoners.

Musavi-Ardabili said in an Aug. 5 Tehran Radio broadcast, monitored by the AP in Nicosia: "There is no need for any trial. The crime is clear... and the punishment is also clear. I pray to God that all of them are destroyed."

Iran's former revolutionary prosecutor, Habib Lajevardi, who helped send hundreds of alleged opponents of the Islamic regime to their deaths, has also recently criticised authorities for showing clemency to political prisoners who repented while behind bars.

The Mojahedin statement and the FINANCIAL TIMES both said that the executions were most severe in the town of Karand in southwest Iran, where the invading rebels were welcomed by the civilian population last month.

The NLA has been intensifying its attacks into western Iran in recent months, forcing Iranian leaders to publicly acknowledge the rebels' incursions.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) has in recent days reported that scores of Mojahedin fighters captured in the fighting have been publicly hanged in several western towns.

Another Iranian opposition group, the outlawed pro-Moscow Tudeh (Communist) Party, has also claimed that "group after group" of Mojahedin activists, political prisoners and "collaborators" have been executed in the last month.

Pakistan

Ishaq Khan Addresses Foreign Dignitaries

BK2008153788 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The acting president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has said that the people of Pakistan have proved that the country is united and its foundations are strong. Addressing foreign dignitaries at the Presidency in Islamabad this evening, he said the memory of the party president could be kept alive only under conditions in which efforts are continued for justice, equality, and the people's prosperity.

The acting president said that Pakistan would continue to pursue the policy of friendship and peace with all countries and it would fulfill its promises. He added that we would keep aloft the principles of justice and equality and whenever these principles were violated, Pakistan would raise its voice against it. The acting president said we would work for the consolidation of democracy and independence and improvement of the people's economic condition and security of the national independence and integrity. He said we would continue to strive for the achievement of objectives for which the party president made untiring efforts.

Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan said that the transfer of power in the country had taken place in a peaceful manner according to the country's law.

Holds News Conference

BK2108013688 Hong Kong AFP in English 2029 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 20 (AFP)—Acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan said Saturday "the enemy" had penetrated Pakistan's inner defenses and sabotage was strongly suspected in the death of late President Mohammed Ziaul Haq.

Addressing his first press conference, hours after the late president was buried, Mr. Khan said it would be pure speculation to say what country or power could be responsible for Wednesday's [17 August] plane crash which killed Gen. Ziaul Haq and 29 others including the U.S. ambassador to Pakistan.

"I would not like to level allegations against any country or power," he said.

Mr. Khan said he declared a state of emergency immediately on taking office wednesday because the circumstances of the tragedy established that "the enemies of Pakistan are active, posing a threat to the security of our country."

"The enemy has penetrated the inner defenses of the country," he said, adding that Pakistan had enemies within and without which can act in collusion.

Islamabad's policy on Afghanistan would not change and the refugees would remain in Pakistan until conditions for their safe return were created, he said. Pakistan's arms supply to the Afghan resistance fell in the purview of a "symmetry" clause in the Geneva accord, allowing superpowers to continue or stop military aid to their respective allies, he said, adding that his government would continue to respect the accord.

No superpower or mini-power had the right to impose a government on the Afghan people, he said. "We stood for this and the mujahidin are struggling to achieve that goal."

He said Pakistan was grateful to the United States for its support including Islamabad's stand on Afghanistan, he said, adding that he hoped his country's relations with Washington would continue to grow stronger.

Mr. Khan, the chairman of the Senate, who will act as president until after the next general elections are held, did not say when the state of emergency would be lifted. He confirmed that polling would go ahead on November 16 as decided by Gen Ziaul Haq. He gave no indication if the elections would be held on a party basis, which the late president had announced rejecting the opposition parties insistence. "For me, both party-based and non-party polls are democratic," he added.

Mr. Khan insisted that the Armed Forces have no role other than the defence of the country or to come to the aid of the civil administration at times of need.

Gen Ziaul Haq, "a defender of peace and stability in the region," had led a peace offensive with India and "Pakistan would continue this policy," Mr. Khan said.

He said he had thanked Indian President R. Venkataramanan for attending the late president's funeral and appreciated Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's decision to declare three days mourning in India and abandon plans to celebrate his birthday which coincided with Gen Ziaul Haq's burial Saturday.

The Emergency Council Mr. Khan formed with three service chiefs, five ministers and four provincial chief ministers would act as an advisory body, he said. "The council was the child of state of emergency" and its establishment did not violate the Constitution, he said.

Further on News Conference

BK2108025288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Aug 88

[Excerpts] Acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan has affirmed that elections will be held on 16 November under the provisions of the Constitution and law. Addressing a crowded news conference in Islamabad last night, he said that election means that it should be participated by everyone, including associations and political parties. [passage omitted]

Replying to a question, the acting president said that the government of Pakistan will continue to treat the Afghan refugees as distinguished guests in the spirit of humanity and Islamic brotherhood. He reaffirmed Pakistan's determination to adhere to the Geneva agreement. He said that Pakistan has been maintaining the policy that no country has the right to impose a government of its own will on any other country. This is an issue concerning the Afghan people and they should solve it themselves. Pakistan will use all possible resources to assist in the efforts to bring all the Afghans together. He emphasized that Pakistan has no intention of imposing a government of its choice on Afghanistan.

On relations with the United States, Ghulam Ishaq Khan said the friendship between the two countries is based on mutual interests and the respect for each other. Both of them are interested in peace and security in the region.

In reply to a question, the acting president once again made it clear that Pakistan has nothing to do with the Sikh problem in India. It is a problem of terrorism and Pakistan is against terrorism.

On his meeting with India's President Venkataraman, the acting president said that he thanked Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for his declaration of a 3-day state mourning as a show of sympathy with the Pakistani people. He described as incorrect the report of amassing of Indian troops along the Pakistani borders.

In reply to another question, he praised the Armed Forces for showing extreme patience and discipline and upholding the Constitution. He said that under the Constitution, the role of the Armed Forces is only to defend and protect the country and to assist the civil administration according to law when they are asked for it.

The acting president referred to the overwhelming love and feelings of the hundreds of thousand of people displayed during the funeral of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, the martyr, yesterday and said that his memory will always remain fresh in our minds because of his sincerity with Islam, love for Pakistan and his services for the promotion of peace. The tragic air crash deprived the nation of the services of some other prominent people as well. He particularly mentioned the notable services of the U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, Arnold Raphel. He thanked the foreign dignitaries and media personnel for joining the Pakistanis in the mourning.

Meetings of Leading Generals Noted

BK2208092288 Hong Kong AFP in English 0859 GMT 22 Aug 88

[By Gilles Bertin]

[Excerpt] Islamabad, Aug 22 (AFP)—Pakistani generals have been holding frequent meetings since President Mohammad Ziaul Haq was killed in an air crash Wednesday and are keeping a close eye on the moves of his successor, informed sources say here.

The military leadership, which lost some of its most senior commanders among the 29 people who died with General Ziaul Haq, including his right-hand man, Joint Chief of Staff General Abdul Rahman, has apparently not yet decided its policy in the run-up to the general elections scheduled for November 16.

Civilian Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the chairman of the Senate, declared a state of emergency on assuming office as interim president under the constitution, but said he saw no reason to use his powers to suspend fundamental rights and said elections scheduled for November 16 would go ahead as planned.

Nine leading generals, including several influential army chiefs, have met several times since Wednesday, informed sources said here.

But they have not yet decided what attitude to take over the elections, diplomats said. [passage omitted]

Airport Staff Arrested in Plane Crash Connection

BK1908151388 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] A number of people have been arrested in Pakistan in connection with the plane crash in which President Ziaul Haq was killed. The arrested included the entire ground staff of Bahawalpur Airport from where the aircraft took off. A car without number plate has also said to have been impounded.

A Pakistan Air Force team has already begun investigation at the crash site and an American team is on its way to join it.

A senior Pakistani minister, Mohammad Aslam Khattak, told the Senate that the flight recorder recovered from the crash site did not reveal any technical problem. He said the crash appears to be the direct result of sabotage.

Air Force Investigation Team Reports 'Sabotage'

BK2008041088 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The Pakistani Air Force team investigating Wednesday's plane crash has indicated sabotage. Reports, quoting officials, say that the team has come to this conclusion based on circumstantial evidence and the fact that the wreckage of the aircraft was found within an area of only 1,000 yards.

The team has, however, not yet revealed its findings and is said to be waiting for confirmation from the special American team, which is also investigating the crash.

A seven-member U.S. forensic team is arriving to help identify the debris of the plane.

Observers in Pakistan believe that a section of Army was behind the sabotage. A number of people have been arrested in connection with the plane crash. The arrested include the entire ground staff of Bhawalpur Airport, from where the aircraft took off.

Islamabad Reports on Ziaul Haq's Funeral

BK2008115888 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Excerpts] The shaheed [martyr] president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, was laid to rest with full national and military honors in the compound of Faysal Masjid [Mosque] in Islamabad amidst moving scenes after zohar [noontime] prayers today. The crowd burst into tears, sobbing, weeping and wailing as they paid last respects to their beloved with the recitation of religious scriptures. Lots of people, young and old, men and women, rich and poor, attended the namaze-e-janzah [funeral prayers] at the Faysal Masjid. Thousands and thousands came from all over the country to pay their respects. The namaz-e-janazah was led by the khatib [reader of holy scriptures] of Faysal Masjid, Professor Mahmud Ahmad Kazi.

As the coffin of the shaheed president was lowered in a grave, a 21-gun salute was boomed. The buglers sounded the last post. Floral wreaths were laid at the grave by the acting president, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, family members of the late president, services chiefs, heads of state and government and leaders of the delegations representing their countries at the funeral. Hundreds of dignitaries, heads of state, prime ministers and special envoys from east and west attended the funeral. [passage omitted]

Earlier, the coffin of the shaheed president was first taken out from the Army House—his official residence—to Chaklala Air Base. At the Army House family members, relatives and staff members paid their respect to the late president and [words indistinct]. From Chaklala Air Base the coffin was flown to the Aiwan-E-Sadar [Presidency] in Islamabad in a helicopter. The buglers sounded the arrival of the coffin and the staff members paid their last homage to the shaheed president. The coffin was taken in a procession rom Aiwan-e-Sadar to Faysal Masjid through Qaide Azam Avenue and Faysal Road. At Faysal Chowk the coffin was put on a gun carriage pulled by the representatives of the three services up to the pall bearers point from where it was carried on shoulders by the acting president, family members and relatives of the shaheed president, chief justice of the supreme court and others.

A large number of people including women and aged people standing on both sides of the road in Rawalpindi and Islamabad were weeping and sobbing and praying as the body passed by them. They showered flowers on the coffin demonstrating their love and affection for the shaheed president. People used all modes of transport, thousands even covered large distances on foot. The

Faysal Masjid, its large compound and adjoining areas were filled with lakhs of people praying and paying their last homage to their leader and guide.

Dignitaries Send Condolences, Attend Funeral

Soviet Presidium Sends Condolences

LD1808151088 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 18 Aug 88

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Presidium has sent deep condolences to Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Pakistan's acting president, in connection with the death in an air crash of President Ziaul Haq and those who were accompanying him.

Astrauskas Heads Delegation

LD1908081288 Moscow TASS in English 0803 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 19 TASS—A Soviet delegation led by Vytautas Astrauskas, deputy president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Lithuania, leaves for Islamabad today to attend the funeral of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq who died in a plane crash.

The USSR delegation includes Viktor Komplektov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, who leaves Moscow together with Vytautas Astrauskas. Andrey Filakovskiy, head of the South-East Asian Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, will come to Islamabad from New Delhi.

Korean, Indonesian Envoys Attend

BK1908164388 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Excerpts] World leaders have started arriving in Islamabad to represent their countries at the funeral of the shaheed [martyr] president. [passage omitted]

A 4-member USSR delegation headed by the vice chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Mr V.S. Astrauskas, also arrived in Islamabad today to attend the funeral. A 5-member delegation of the Republic of Korea headed by Mr Choe Kwang-su, and a 17-member delegation of Indonesia headed by the vice president, Mr Sudharmono, arrived in Islamabad this evening to take part in the funeral. A 2-member delegation of Bahrain headed by Finance Minister Mr Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim also arrived in Islamabad this evening. [passage omitted]

Presidents, Prime Ministers

BK1908154988 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] World leaders have started arriving in Islamabad to represent their countries at the funeral of the martyr president. Those leaders who have arrived so far include Turkish President Kenan Evren and Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, Commander in Chief of the Turkish Army (Kamal Yanus), Kenyan Vice President Dr Josephat Karanja, Somali Prime Minister Mohamed Ali Samantar, Nepal's Prime Minister Marich Man Singh Shrestha, Ugandan Deputy Prime Minister Abubakar, Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, ICO Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada, and the special representative of the Philippines president.

Acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, several cabinet ministers, and the three Armed Forces chiefs were present at the airport to receive them.

In a statement on his arrival, Turkish President Kenan Evren said he has been deeply grieved at the tragic death of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. He said the late president always worked for the progress and prosperity of his country and was a staunch supporter of Pakistan-Turkey friendship. He said Pakistan-Turkey friendship will prove a model for others. The Turkish president said the assistance provided by our Pakistani brethren during the Turkish freedom struggle and the historical and religious ties existing between the two countries are the unbreakable foundation of our friendship and brotherhood. He offered condolences in his own behalf and on behalf of the members of his delegation and the Turkish people to the Pakistani people and the bereaved families.

Nepal's Premier, Others Arrive

BK1908112988 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] The prime minister of Nepal, Mr Marich Man Singh Shrestha, arrived in Islamabad this afternoon to represent his country at the funeral of President Mohammad Ziaul Haq shaheed [martyr]. He was received by the senior minister, Mr Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak.

The senior vice president and prime minister of Somalia, Mr Mohamed Ali Samantar, and the Egyptian foreign minister, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, along with their delegations, have already reached Karachi. They are expected in Islamabad some time today.

Afghan Resistance Leaders Attend

BK2008004888 Hong Kong AFP in English 1853 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 19 (AFP)—The seven-party Afghan Resistance Alliance Friday declared the late President Mohammed Ziaul Haq a martyr of the Afghan holy war and said it will name Kabul's main mosque after the deceased Pakistani ruler.

Alliance leaders at a memorial meeting in the border town Peshawar decided to participate in the late president's funeral Saturday in Islamabad along with 500 rebel commanders.

The resistance parties will hold Koran recitations in their offices to mourn the late Pakistani ruler while refugee scholars will participate in the funeral.

The alliance said it will publish a poster depicting Gen. Ziaul Haq as a martyr of the Afghan jihad (holy war).

"After the liberation of Kabul, the Afghan capital's Pule Khashti Mosque will be named Ziaul Haq Mosque," a communique said.

The alliance meeting led by Chairman Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani was attended by rebel chiefs Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, Burhanuddin Rabbani, Muhammad Yunis Khalis and the resistance's government chief Ahmad Shah.

An alliance communique issued later said the resistance foreign minister will supervise the arrangements for implementing the decisions.

Sources in Peshawar said some three million Afghan refugees in Pakistan, stunned by the death of Gen Ziaul Haq, were increasingly concerned about their future after his death.

Religious ceremonies have been held in almost all camps since the president's died in a plane crash Wednesday.

"We have been rendered orphans," said a camp dweller. "He provided us shelter, took care of our needs and fought on our behalf on all world forums for the independence" of Afghanistan.

The refugees intense love for Gen Ziaul Haq has grown over the years, observers said citing interviews with Afghan refugees in remote tribal areas along the border.

Many Afghan children born in the last nine years had been named Ziaul Haq, analysts noted.

An elderly Afghan refugee at Katcha Garhi camp on the outskirts of Peshawar said: "There is little charm left in living after Ziaul Haq."

"His bold attitude in adverse times provided courage and motivation to the Afghan mujahidin," he said.

Gen Ziaul Haq, the resistance movement's strongest supporter, said last month that he wanted to offer prayers in a Kabul mosque.

"I feel as if I have lost my real father," said an Afghan guard at a refugee hospital run by a foreign relief agency. Newspapers here reported that a pall of gloom swept refugee camps throughout the country, with Afghan women weeping at Gen Ziaul Haq's death and that little traffic remained on the roads.

"It would certainly take quite some time for refugees to recover from the great shock," the APP said.

Arrival of Shultz Delegation

BK2008064288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] More world leaders have arrived in Islamabad to attend the late president's funeral. A U.S. delegation led by Secretary of State George Shultz arrived in Islamabad last night. Mr George Shultz in his arrival statement said his country strongly supports Pakistan's independence and sovereignty. He said Martyr President Mohammad Ziaul Haq will be remembered for a long time because of the untiring efforts made by him for the stability in this region of the world. The new U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, Mr Oakley, was also accompanying the U.S. delegation.

Kuwait Planning Minister Mr 'Abd al-Rahman al-'Awadi arrived with a three-member delegation. He said President Mohammad Ziaul Haq was torch bearer of the Islamic solidarity and he struggled not only for his country but for the progress and prosperity of the entire Muslim community.

Iran Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati told newsmen after his arrival that both Iran and Pakistan have been deprived of important leaders.

Malayasian defense Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen has described President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's tragic death as a great loss for the entire world.

Singapore Senior Minister Rajaratnam has described the president's death as very big loss not only for Pakistan but for all developing nations.

A 10-member delegation from Saudi Arabia led by brother of Shah Fahd, Mr (Muthab 'Abd al-'Aziz) and the Algierian delegation led by a member of the Political Bureau, Mr (Mohamed Abdelghani), and Qatar Public Works Minister Mr Khalid ibn Abdallah al-Atiyyah have also arrived in Islamabad to attend the funeral. Maldives Foreign Minister (Mr Ibrahim Abbas), Libyan Deputy Foreign Minister (Ahmad Sharaqi), and a six-member delegation of the Sri Lankan Armed Forces arrived in Islamabad early this morning.

ROK Foreign Minister Arrives

SK2008024988 Seoul YONHAP in English 0229 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Seoul, Aug. 20 (YONHAP)—Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su leading a South Korean delegation to attend the funeral of Pakistani President Mohammed Ziaul Haq, arrived in Islamabad Saturday morning via Beijing, the Foreign Ministry said.

Choe was in a VIP room at the Beijing airport for about one hour, ministry spokesman Kim Hang-kyong said, adding that we don't know whether he met with Chinese officials.

It is the first time that a South Korean foreign minister stopped in Beijing, although it was only for a short time, Kim said. South Korea has no diplomatic relations with China.

Kim also said Choe was greeted at the Beijing airport by U.S. ambassador to China Winston Lord and Pakistani ambassador to China Mahmood.

Omani Official Attends

JN2008141788 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] The sultanate today participated in the funeral ceremonies for the late Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. His Excellency Qays ibn 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Zawawi, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, represented His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, and extended condolences to His Excellency Ghulam Ishaq Khan, acting Pakistani president.

The sultanate's flags were today flown at half mast throughout the country.

Ishaq Khan Receives Indian President

BK2008144788 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] President R. Venkataraman, who arrived in Islamabad this afternoon, was received at the airport by the acting president, Ghulam Ishaq Khan. They drove together from airport to the burial site, which had by then become a vast sea of mourners.

Meets With Saudi Minister

LD2008221588 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2130 GMT 20 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad, 20 Aug (SPA)—His Royal HIghness Prince Mut'ib ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the minister of public works and housing, had a meeting with the Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

His Royal Higness expressed once again to president Khan the condolences of the custodian of the two Holy mosques on the death of the late president Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

He also conveyed to President Ghulam Ishaq Khan once again the support of the custodian of the two holy mosques, the Kingdom for the fraternal Pakistani people and government.

For his part, President Ghulam Ishaq Khan expressed his deep appreciation to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its leaders for their care and attention to Pakistan.

The meeting, which took place at the Pakistani presidential palace in Islamabad this evening, was attended by 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Thunayyan the Saudi foreign ministry under secretary and the ambassador of the kingdom Yusuf Muhammad Mutabbaqani. [name and title as received]

Communal Clashes in Parachinar; Curfew Imposed

BK2008003088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1929 GMT 19 Aug 88

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 19 (AFP)—An indefinite curfew was clamped on Pakistan's northwestern Parachinar town Friday after rival Moslem sects clashed following the death of President Mohammed Ziaul Haq, official sources said.

The curfew was imposed to control fighting in which the rival Sunnite and Shi'ite Moslem sects exchanged fire, the sources said, adding that about 100 people have been arrested.

The sources told newsmen in the border town Peshawar that a group of Shi'ite Moslems started firing allegedly in jubiliation after Radio Pakistan announced Gen Ziaul Haq's death in a plane crash Wednesday.

The Sunnite Moslems expressed their indignation the next day in a procession praising Gen Ziaul Haq as a martyr and victim of sabotage, condemning the Shi'ite sect's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni of Iran and demanding action against those who fired shots, they said.

The Shi'ite Moslems Friday countered by staging rallies in Parachinar, criticising the Sunnite leader Gen Ziaul Haq and chanting pro-Khomeyni slogans, provoking a direct clash with stone-throwing between the rival sects.

Official sources said the two groups exchanged fire in which five people including two para-military troops were injured. They denied rumours in Peshawar that casualties resulted from the clashes.

Tension was simmering in Parachinar since the murder of the Shi'ite sect's militant leader 'Arif Hussain al-Hussaini earlier this month. Mr. Hussaini belonged to Parachinar which had been scene of repeated clashes between the two sects over religious rites. [sentence as received]

Authorities said the Shi'a sect would be allowed to proceed with religious processions on 'Ashura marking the martyrdom of the last Prophet Muohammad's grandson Imam Husayn next week.